



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Getty Research Institute

JOURNEY

THROUGH

GREECE AND THE IONIAN ISLANDS,

IN

JUNE, JULY, AND AUGUST, 1821.

BY DR. CHRISTIAN MÜLLER.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR SIR RICHARD PHILLIPS AND CO.

BRIDE-COURT, BRIDGE-STREET.

1822.

In Rome I agreed with some friends to go, this year, in the month of March, by Sicily to Athens, from which place we were to undertake shorter excursions through Attica, Bæotia, Achaia, Argolis, and to Ægira. This plan, however, was frustrated.

It had, however, taken too deep root in me for to allow to renounce it altogether.

Besides, I felt myself powerfully attracted towards Greece, by contemplating its regeneration from a distance. I felt myself prepared to endure and to risk every thing, and to join, with heart and hand, in their contest.

I, therefore, set off by myself, and went through Naples to Sicily; and, after various excursions in that island, I began the journey, the description of which is contained in the following letters.

C. MÜLLER.

J O U R N E Y
THROUGH
G R E E C E
AND
THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

LETTER I.

Messina, June, 1821.

WE journeyed over the hills, and arrived at Messina, on our road from the lofty mountain of Toarmina, in the last week in June.

For three weeks I had been wandering on the east and south coasts of Sicily. The ancient and splendid city of Agrigent I saw sunk into the deepest wretchedness, now only great in its colossal ruins; the proud Syracusæ, kept in awe by a battalion of Austrians; Cyana's spring, almost choked with mud; and Mount Ætna, at other periods so furious, I saw quiet and calm, even without that small silvery column of smoke, by which its Neapolitan brother now and then indicates its existence.

I had made the greater part of the journey on foot, and through a burning heat; I therefore felt much gratification when I had taken possession of my very clean apartment in the *Lion d'Oro*.

To a pensive mind, the two principal pictures which adorn the room would not be very cheering. On one side, Werter with the peace-bringing pistol; on the other, Charlotte, who has just sent it. Both were very badly executed, although well intended. Many shallow lines have been written by Frenchmen under them, although they had no notion of the subject; but there were some good English verses.

I found an Austrian vessel destined for Zante, which was to set out on the third day. I, therefore, employed the following day in visiting those objects which I had not seen during my first residence in this city. King Roger's beautiful dome, borne by antique columns, and the Pelorian hills, again attracted me. From these hills, which rise above Messina and its forts, the prospect is delicious.

The city still bears many traces of its destruction, and during the bad times which prevailed for these thirty-eight years, only the most essential parts could be rebuilt, and among the un-

nished parts are almost all the houses of the splendid Pallazzata, which are not continued beyond the first-floors. If, in more prosperous times, this street should ever be finished, it will rival in splendour, with its colonnaded palaces, the old Palazzata, which was destroyed before its completion. The appearance of this harbour-street, like its name, has for the stranger arriving from Naples, which is so poor in architectural beauties, something strikingly grand and imposing.

The prosperity of Messina had been broken through Leghorn, even before the earthquake, so that but few families remained possessed of property. But this, too, was materially injured by the calamity. No splendid carriages are seen here, and the contrast, formed by a comparison with Palermo, is very great.

I was struck with seeing so few handsome female faces and figures here, which are yet so numerous even in Catania. The citizens' wives wear a long black cloth cloak, descending to the ground with a small hood. This has certainly a very solemn appearance; but, besides this kind of dress being very ugly and unbecoming, I cannot conceive how these females can walk in them through the streets, while the barometer stands upon 32° Fahrenheit, in the shade.

Ten thousand Austrian soldiers are enough to keep all Sicily in order and tranquillity, and of these a few battalions prove sufficient to form the garrison of Messina.

It is true that most of the Sicilians wish to see the country again occupied by the English, on account of the money which they expended. The English too, who view, with pain, the occupation of the island by the Austrians, ferment this desire of the natives by all possible means, direct and indirect; but they are mistaken who apprehend any ill from this. It is certain that the Sicilians are far from being as cowardly and effeminate a people as the Neapolitans, but their late insurrections against the Austrians at Palermo and Catania, were always energetically and judiciously suppressed, with the greatest speed.

Those who are fond of recalling the memory of the Sicilian vespers, forget that Sicily and its inhabitants of 1821 are no longer those of the thirteenth century.

At the same time the silent caution of the Austrians, both here and in Naples, is admirable. Supported by this, they are able to keep two kingdoms in awe with an army of 30,000 men.

The robbers in Sicily have entirely disappeared since the presence of the Austrians, but in the kingdom of Naples, even on the high roads of Rome and Otranto, they continue their trade with the greatest audacity.

LETTER II.

Zante, July.

WE left the harbour of Messina early in the morning, that is, we were carried out of it by the tide, which is of great importance for the navigation in this channel. With the next high-water we were carried into the Pharus, which is always a difficult undertaking, owing to the violent currents in the strait, so much so that, unless the wind be favourable and pretty brisk, it is impossible to accomplish it at low-water.

We were soon becalmed; and I profited of this involuntary leisure of the captain to enquire of him respecting the present importance of Scylla and Charybdis in navigation. I give his observations as those of an experienced man, without pretending to warrant their correctness.

The Scylla I had seen myself a month previously, on entering the Pharus, near the village of Scylla, on the coast of Calabria. It is now a harmless rock, and is only terrible in poetry; but the Charybdis is still dangerous, being the most difficult of the numerous whirlpools which extend through the whole Pharus, along the Calabrian coast; and, even in modern times, has proved destructive to many vessels. In autumn and winter the passage through the Pharus is so dangerous that most ships going from east to west, prefer sailing round Sicily than attempting to go through it. Others, not taking this precaution, lay for months in the Pharus, without daring to proceed, on account of the currents flowing towards the Charybdis, and other whirlpools.

Thus, I was told, two ships sailed last year from Trieste for Geneva. The one, even after having touched at Malta, where she lay a short time, went round Sicily, and soon arrived at Geneva. On her subsequent return to Trieste, after the lapse of several months, she met the other ship off Naples, and in a very damaged state, after having had to contend, for two months and a half, against the currents of the Charybdis.

In the evening the wind again became favourable, and we soon came in sight of the mountain-tops of Taormina and Ætna. The latter mountain, owing to its gentle rise, is not so picturesque in its appearance as the Vesuvius with the Sonnoa; but its size makes it still imposing. The Sicilian mountains rise from the Pelorian hills in very beautiful undulations over the Taormina, towards the Ætna, behind which they disappear.

The Calabrian mountains are far less beautiful. Besides, they are rugged and barren, and were only interrupted in their monotony by the rough beds of mountain-torrents, which are now dried up. There were no human habitations to be seen from this spot.

On the following morning we lost sight of the coasts of Italy and Sicily; but we came to a spot from which, as the captain told me, in bright weather, the coasts of Apulia, the Mount *Ætna*, and the Monte Nero, on Kephallonia, may be discovered. But the state of the atmosphere deprived us of this extensive view.

It was near sun-set when the captain shewed me, through his telescope, the Monte Nero on Kephallonia; it was the first point of Greece that I beheld. But still we were not permitted to approach the Ionian Islands; for the favourable wind fell, and a complete calm, which ensued, held us fast, at a distance of twenty-one Italian miles from Zante. Hundreds of playful dolphins sported round our vessel, undisturbed by the silly attempts of the sailors at catching some of them. These creatures display a peculiar grace in every one of their movements, and seem to be much attached to man; they only shew themselves in fine weather, moving in graceful circles round the vessel, bounding from the blue waves, disappearing for a few moments, and then, as in sport, re-appearing at another place.

After having waited a long time, a favourable wind sprang up, and pushed us rapidly towards the island, which rose beautifully before us from among the waves. Kephallonia, with its high mountains, and Zakynthos (Zante) lay before me.

LETTER III.

Zante, July.

It was my intention to have proceeded hence to Patrass, there to embark again for the isthmus, and go to Corinth, and then sail from the other side of the isthmus to the neighbouring Piræus. This plan, undertaken with a little spirit, I thought completely feasible, since it had been unanimously reported, in Italy and Sicily, that Athens, with its castle, had long since fallen into the hands of the Greeks.

I now learnt in Zante, from the report of French and English travellers, as well as from the Greeks themselves, that it would be impossible to take this route. I was told that the fort of Patrass was still in the hands of the Turks, the city being reduced to a heap of ruins, and that sailing, in the Gulf of Lepanto, was very dangerous, owing to the Greek and Turkish pirates by which the gulf was infested; furthermore, that it would be very hazardous to cross the isthmus, on account of the Turkish and Greek banditti roving about there. To get to Corinth would be utterly impossible. It would also be very difficult to find any shipping at Kenkeri, on the other side of the isthmus, for Salamis or Athens, all trade and communication being stopped. But if I should even succeed in conquering all these dif-

difficulties and reach Athens, I should find the town almost entirely abandoned, even the French and Austrian consuls having left it. Moreover, the most valuable remains of antiquity being contained in the fort, the ancient Acropolis, which was still occupied by the Turks, I should be precluded from seeing it; and, if I went upon the chance of the fort having been taken within a month, (the last date of the accounts received from that quarter,) there was but one way of reaching there, viz. to sail to the island of Hydra, from whence I might find an opportunity for Ægina, Salamis, or even the Piræus.

On the latter course I have, therefore, resolved, and am now waiting for an opportunity for Hydra. But I am aware that at the present period such a course would be difficult to meet with; and, I am told, that I should more readily find one in Kalamata.

For this small town on the gulf of Coron, I have found three travelling companions, two Englishmen, and a Hungarian. They have resolved to proceed there overland, if there should be no ship sailing there within a few days, and I am almost inclined to accompany them.

LETTER IV.

Zante, July.

WE found no ship to sail for Kalamata, and, therefore, set about the execution of our plan, in spite of all the warnings and dissuasion of our friends.

Our departure was to be kept secret from the British authorities in Zante, and we spoke about an intended excursion into the interior of the island; whilst our embarkation took place at night-time, and outside of the harbour.

We set sail at day-break, and within four hours-and-a-half we landed at Pyrgo, on the coast of Morea. In this place of misery and wretchedness, we procured two guides with mules to carry our luggage.

We soon reached the neat romantic village of Phloka, which we found almost completely deserted. The scite of Olympia is easily recognised. I wished to give some details of the remains of this famous city; but, together with all my other property, I have lost my journal and drawings.

Passing over the Kaldeus, near its junction with the Alpheas, we saw Mount Saturn. At the foot of this mountain, towards the north, lay the stadium, the shape of which may still be traced; towards the east, the theatre and the prytaneum; on the road towards the stadium, the temple of Hera; towards the south the Leonidacum, and, probably, the study of Phidias.

To the south-east of this mountain, towards the Alpheas,

stood the famous temple of Jupiter Olympus. Only a few insignificant ruins, and some underwood, mark the scite of this temple, from which the Turks of Lalla, to this day, dig for stones which once belonged to it. The total demolition of this temple is owing to its uncommon splendour and internal richness; whilst some older temples at Athens, Agrigent, &c. are almost entire to this day.

Of the Pelopium and Hippodamium no traces are discernible, no more than of the theatre. Of the Hippodrom alone, some ruins are left.

Leaving Olympia towards evening, we took the road to Mirakka, where we saw some ruins of buildings, probably of a later date, and some ancient tombs. We passed near the small seat, or rather tower, of Pyrgo, belonging to the Aga of Lalla, now a fugitive, and which had been built of stones from the temple of the Olympian Jupiter. We passed the night at Mirakka.

The next morning we crossed the Alpheus near Palago-Phanaro; a passage which is not without its dangers, besides being awkwardly managed; we, however, left our mules on the right-bank, as we only went for the purpose of enjoying the view of Elis and Arcadia, from the mountain of Palago-Phanaro. We had much finer prospects on the succeeding days, and certainly did not find it worth the trouble and danger of this crossing.

We soon passed over the Erimanthus and Ladon into Arcadia, to the small village of Agiani or Hagios, on the scite of the ancient city of Heræa. The remaining ruins of this once famous city are but scanty; yet, occasionally, Doric columns of a porous soft stone, of sixteen to eighteen inches in diameter, are found.

From Agiani the road again leads over the Alpheus, to which we now bade adieu, and proceeded towards the Turkish fort of Nerrowitza; which we, however, carefully avoided.

We thought of proceeding that day as far as Panlizza, when, towards seven o'clock in the morning, our progress was stopped in an unexpected manner. We suddenly perceived a party of armed men, with three mules, coming down the hill, and directly recognised them as Mainots.

We immediately took to our pistols, but, in the same moment they fired a musket, and one of our mules fell dead on the spot. After this introduction they called out to us to surrender ourselves, otherwise they would murder us, which would be very easy for them, "brave Spartans," with such Frankish dogs. And certainly such it was, as these Neo-Spartans were between thirty and thirty-two in number, all armed fourfold; and our party was only four men, armed with three brace of pistols, our Hungarian friend not having any weapons.

Nevertheless, we resolved to defend ourselves at all hazards. We however told them, before that, we were friends, on our march to the Greek army at Kalamata. This declaration made them hesitate a moment: however, after having fired another shot, they replied laconically, that this was an untruth, for people did not go to Kalamata by land, but by sea; that we were English spies; and that, moreover, the Franks were not wanted at Kalamata.

Upon this they quickly came down upon us. They fired two shots, one of which slightly wounded Mr. N. in the upper-arm, the other killed the young muleteer of Pyrgo. In return, the brave Englishman, S. disabled two of the robbers. For my part, I shot one of them through the thigh, but the second pistol having missed fire, I felt my senses leaving me, and I fell to the ground. This was the consequence of a blow which I received with the butt-end of a musket on the head and shoulder; and when I recovered from my swoon, I found myself and my three companions tied to trees.

I could not conceive why the robbers had left us alive, as it would have been easy for them to have dispatched us. My companions also told me, that this would have been the case, had not the chief of the band, immediately after my falling, ordered his men to desist from firing, and to carry us along with them tied. This part of the plan, however, was finally abandoned, and we were ultimately tied to the trees, and left to die the most miserable death, or, perhaps, to be murdered the next day. Having stripped us of every valuable, they went away with our provisions, luggage, arms, and the remaining mule.

We exhausted all our strength to disengage ourselves, and night came on, without our having succeeded. We now heard somebody approaching us; it was our surviving muleteer, who had concealed himself behind the rocks and trees as soon as the firing commenced. He released us from our captivity, and notwithstanding the wretchedness of our situation, we experienced such relief as can only be conceived by those who may have undergone similar sufferings.

But what were we to do now? Deprived of every means, a return seemed to be as impossible as any progress on our journey. In this dilemma, Mr. S. uttered a shout, at the same time picking up his cap, which, in the beginning of the contest, had fallen among the stone, and which he held up with loud exclamations of joy. At last he informed us that he had hidden some pieces of gold in his cap, with which we might reach Kalamata, where we should find further assistance.

Our joy now became equal to his, and we expressed it in lively terms, as well as our gratitude for his generosity in offering

to admit us to a share in his good fortune. We now resolved to pass the night in the forest, to dress our wounds, and to proceed the next day in our journey to Kalamata. It was also discussed whether we were to do any thing in the neighbouring village towards the recovery of our property, and the prosecution of the robbers. But our guide strongly dissuaded us from such a step, urging the absence of all legal authorities throughout the Morea at the present period, together with the danger of exciting the robbers, who, probably, were still about here, or any of their fellows, to revenge the attempt of bringing them to justice. We therefore desisted from this scheme, till we should reach Kalamata, whither the muleteer engaged to guide us, in hopes, as we anticipated ourselves, that we should there be able to indemnify him for his trouble and loss.

It may be imagined that we spent a very gloomy night. Besides, Mr. N. and I could not sleep from pain; therefore, as soon as the day began to dawn, we set out on our melancholy march.

Our road led us over a beautiful succession of hill and dale, from the former of which we enjoyed a most delightful view into Arcadia. But owing to our exhaustion from hunger, thirst, and fatigue, and from a consideration for our wounded friend, whose wound was but slightly drest, and who suffered from fever, we did not proceed further than the village of Ampeliona.

In this village we again found inhabitants and cattle. We supplied ourselves with bread, milk, meat, and eggs; but owing to the poor inhabitants not knowing our gold, it was with difficulty that we persuaded them to accept a zechine in payment.

The next morning we arrived at Paulizza, which is the ancient city of Phigalia, now consisting of a few wretched houses. We traced the whole circumference of the city wall, which is defended by many towers, some of which are situated upon rocks, and on the borders of deep ravines. On the east side, one of its antique gates is yet standing. It is formed of large stones, joined without any kind of cement or lime.

In one of the churches are some fragments of a small doric temple. In another we saw antique columns, two feet in diameter; and along the walls, two rows of columns of only sixteen inches in diameter. On the outside of this church we perceived some large blocks of stone, which seemed to have formed the foundation of a temple.

Owing to its elevated position, Paulizza is very cold in winter. The mountains about here are truly stupendous, and open, like gates, with views into the wildly-beautiful valleys of Arcadia. The climate of Arcadia is by no means genial; the country is strikingly grand, and reminded me of Tyrol, and still more of Salzburg.

Only the vegetation of a tropical climate, such as wild thyme, rosemary, lavender, and myrtles; pomegranate, cactus, fig, mulberry, and mastix-trees, remind the traveller of his being in the south.

Most of the houses on our road we found deserted; therefore being still provided with provisions, which we brought with us from Pampeliona, we pushed on as far as the ruins of Bassæ, where we encamped between its splendid columns.

The famous ruins of the temple of Apollo Epithurias, are some of the finest and most splendid now to be met with in Greece. From hence the famous bas-relief was taken which now forms the principal ornament of the British Museum, and which represents the contests between the Lapithes and Centaurs, and those between the Greeks and the Amazons.

This temple lies between two hills, crowned by ancient oaks. It is one hundred and twenty-five feet long, and forty-eight wide. The number of columns on the longest side is fifteen, the number of those in the front and the back are only six. The interior was a hypæthrum. The cell was surrounded by Ionic columns, with recesses between them, which, probably, were once filled up with statues. These Ionic columns supported the famous frieze which was forcibly carried off by the English, under the protection of an armed force of sixty men from Zante; Weli-Pacha, son of the famous Ali of Janina, who was then pacha of Tripolizza, having refused to give it up. This temple was built of very handsome and durable kind of stone.

The prospect from this spot is as beautiful as extensive.

We passed the night on one of the hills near the temple. The next morning we proceeded to Krano, a small village; but which, probably, was the ancient Messenian city of Kromon.

The road from Krano to Sakona, a distance of about five hours, is chiefly down hill. Sakona lies in the plain of Messeni.

We passed near the remains of an antique city wall, at the foot of a hill, and crossed over a number of small streams and rivulets, which, fortunately for us, were nearly dried up.

Close by the village of Skala we found, on the top of a hill in the defile, a species of natural mosaick of a very singular appearance. This village probably occupies the site of Orchalia.

An hour's journey beyond Skala, we came to the foundation of a small temple, situated on a rock, at the foot of which is a spring and a small pond. This is the source of the larger Pamisus, in which children were purified.

It was rather late in the evening when we arrived at Kalamata. This town is situated in a smiling and fertile country, resembling a garden. It lies at the foot of a hill, at a distance of above

an Italian mile from the sea ; the fort, lately taken from the Turks, lying by the side of it. It is, probably, the ancient Kalama, where the temple of Diana Timnatis stood, although some make it the site of the antique city of Steng-Klarus.

LETTER V.

Zante, July.

WE came to Kalamata, both from inclination and necessity, to enlist in the Greek army, whose head-quarters are in this town. I have determined to speak of the treatment I suffered there from the Greeks, with all the lenity which the good cause in bad hands deserves.

We certainly found what was termed the head-quarters, *i. e.* a collection of men who styled themselves officers. They were Greeks, with the exception of a few Frenchmen and a Polander from Napoleon's lancers.

Our first step was to wait upon the Duodekadi, and lay our complaint before them, in the hope of causing the apprehension of the robbers, by giving an exact description of the lost articles; having learnt from good authority that they were partly inhabitants of the town; on which account, perhaps, they were favoured by these magistrates. We met with a very cold reception, and they seemed surprized that we should complain of having been robbed in the Morea. They refused to investigate the matter, as being useless and impossible.

We were not only disappointed of assistance where we had a right to expect it, nor did we experience the least commiseration from the Greeks. They treated us with the contempt usually shewn by the Moreats towards the Franks; a treatment as ridiculous as inconsistent in people who are merely dependant, and who have so pressinglly solicited foreign assistance.

There is, indeed, no want of high-sounding phrases, in which the Spartan descent is repeated; they, however, neither possess real Grecian spirit, military skill, just conception of their high origin, or subordination.

Moreover, there was a terrible confusion in their affairs. The troops and officers were but seldom paid, there being always a scarcity of money among the Greeks of the Morea. The people either live by pillage or by their own means: of course, they could not yet provide a proper supply of provisions and arms, and the small quantity of cannon and ammunition imported by French and American ships upon credit, are far from being sufficient.

Besides, they had no plan in their operations, and the people

of Kalamata thought it quite ridiculous to think of it, since Prince D. Ypsilanti and the hero Kolokotroni were stationed before Tripolizza. They thought there was nothing else to do but to take the fortresses from the hands of the Turks. This, however, is no easy task, considering the obstinacy with which the Turks defend themselves in them, and rather endure the greatest privations than surrender to the Greeks. In addition to this, several of them have large garrisons.

Of honour, the best essence of an army, these people have no idea. Their spirit is not that of bravery, but that of villany, which considers all methods of conquest justifiable.

The Moreats have already been reproached of being more cruel and malicious towards each other, than the Turks were towards them. This charge is literally true. They now persecute and denounce each other, in the same manner as they formerly used the pachas, from covetousness, envy, or hatred.

These *soi-disant* officers cannot brook to see each other promoted; and they are especially offended when such a distinction is conferred on a foreigner: a feeling which I should not blame if they were independent of them; but they ought not to reject what is indispensable to them.

It is almost impossible for a European to describe the common soldiers, who, for the most part, are Mainots. With the pride of their ancestors, of whom, however, they have but confused ideas, their character unites villany and cowardice. In general, their courage only extends to stealing a sheep, a cow, or a horse, but it is lost when they are to meet an enemy face to face, without any prospect of gain.

The Turks are personally braver than the Moreat Greeks. This fact was hitherto displayed on every occasion, but particularly during the siege of the small fort of Monombasia, on the 5th of April. The Turks wished to repulse the Greeks, who were four times stronger than themselves, by a sally. But as often as they came out of their fort, their cowardly opponents fled. The Turks now thought of a stratagem for the purpose of engaging their enemies. They, therefore, put a cow outside the gate from which they intended to sally forth. In the night the Greeks went into the snare. They approached, in order to seize the lowing cow, and while engaged with unloosing her, the Turks fell upon them, killed many, and took still more, who, however, did not survive the next day.

They commenced this siege with one large cannon, with the management of which they were still less acquainted than the Turks were of their artillery. With this gun, however, they fired from such a distance that it was impossible for their balls to reach the fort;—they were, however, secure against the artil-

lery of the Turks. Thus they uselessly spent a large quantity of precious ammunition, and after a few days they went off with great noise and threats. The Turks maintained themselves yet some time longer, till hunger and want compelled them to surrender. But, contrary to the capitulation, the whole of the garrison was put to the sword.

On seeing these people stalking about with two pistols, a takan, or long dagger, and a knife in their belt, with a musket on their shoulder, and a large supply of cartridges about them, we are apt to think that it is the effect of a barbarous courage as with the Turks, whom the Greeks mimic in every particular. But this is not the case. They load, it is true, their enemies with the most opprobrious terms, which are as punctually returned by them, but they seldom await them, if they approach courageously and in equal numbers.

The Frenchmen and the Polander had been entrusted with the command of a few troops of Moreats, and were styled captains. But they were sensible of the difficulty and unpleasantness of their situation. Hated by their men as "Frenkish dogs," and in every way unsupported, they were left without any influence, and were afraid of falling, some day or other, sacrifices to their hatred of foreigners. Moreover, they hardly ever received any pay; and they ardently wished to leave the country, but had no means carry their wish into execution.

We had seen and heard enough to be resolved rather to suffer death than join these vile bands; and, therefore, determined to leave the Morea as soon as possible. Only two zechines were left of S.'s money; but his generosity would not allow him to save himself alone from the wreck of our hopes. The master of a Zantiot boat, however, agreed, for this money, not only to give us a passage to Zante, but also to board us during the voyage.

We left Kalamata the following morning. In our passage we saw, at a distance, the fortresses of Koron and Metun, which are still in the hands of the Turks, and that of Navaria (Neacastro) lately taken by the Greeks.

Having arrived off Zante, the difficulty was to land unobserved, and to appear as if we came from the interior, in order to avoid being held to a quarantine. During the night the landing was effected at an unguarded part of the breakers, and jumping from rock to rock, we succeeded in gaining the shore. The boat again took to the open sea, and the next morning we entered the harbour of Zante.

We also reached the town undiscovered, and the report was generally believed that we came to examine the naphtha-springs in the interior.

By the kind assistance of the persons to whom we had been recommended, we obtained here enough to enable us to procure some linen, and to think of a farther voyage.

Our roads now separated. I determined to return by Venice to the south of Germany; but my companions wished to go to Malta. They were enabled to leave a short time before myself. The moment of our parting I shall remember through life; although it was silent.

The rising of the Greeks against the unjust and barbarous conduct of the pachas, the attempt of shaking off the yoke of a government which not only approved of their inhuman treatment, but frequently ordered it,—is, unquestionably, a glorious æra in modern history.

The Porte could, in my opinion, no longer be considered as a legitimate power in Europe, when she attacked those undestructible rights of her subjects which they possess as *human beings*, rights which form the basis of all European governments, and which are the condition in the fulfilment of which alone a government can aspire to legitimacy.

The rising of the Greeks against such a government ought not, therefore, to be classed with the revolutionary attempts lately made in other countries.

The Greeks do not desire a partial change in their government, but they demand common justice and humanity; and as this was not to be obtained in a friendly way, they took to arms to render themselves altogether independent of that power.

Should the Porte, however, now be induced to grant the Greeks, under proper securities, such a legal government as, for instance, is enjoyed by the Austrian subjects in Germany, she would re-enter into her legitimacy towards the Greeks, and any farther resistance on their part might then be called disloyal.

But as it is, I consider the insurrection of the Greeks as being fully justified after the treatment they have experienced. Similar attempts were made during the last century in the Morea and northern Greece, but without success.

But to call it a *national war* of the Greeks against the Turks, is decidedly erroneous. Whole tribes of them, and those among the most renowned of antiquity, the inhabitants of Attica, Megaris, Thebes, &c. have hitherto kept completely aloof from the contest; upwards of five thousand male Moreats have fled from the Peloponnese to the island of Zante, under the pretence of their having no arms to fight for their country. This, however, is an untruth, since it is well known that every Moreat has his pistols, muskets, daggers, long knives, &c. which, in the true Turkish style, they always carry along with them.

In the same manner above three thousand inhabitants of ancient Acarnania have taken refuge on the islands of Cephalonia, St. Maura, &c.

With the exception of a few princes, who perhaps hope to acquire thrones through it, the higher orders have hitherto not participated in the war. They have not only withdrawn their support, but there are even many who disapprove of the measure.

They read here with much regret of the patriotic sacrifices of the Greeks, reported in foreign newspapers. This unworthy exclusion too is the cause of the want of money among their armies; which causes so much delay in their operations, and deprives them of the means of purchasing the necessary implements of war.

It is well known that the war on the Danube broke out too soon. It is said that it was only to have begun in the autumn of 1822. Nothing was prepared, nothing planned; hence the confusion in their operations.

Prince Alexander Ypsilanti has shewn his degree of capacity in the miscarried campaign on the Danube. His brother Dimitiz Ypsilanti and prince Katakusi in the Morea, are possessed of military talent; under them command Alexander Kantakuzens, the brothers Kisko and Kolaktroni, who is a brave leader, who, before the arrival of D. Ypsilanti, had done almost every thing that has been accomplished in this part of Greece.

But for undertakings like these extraordinary talents are required; common skill will not suffice.

Let us only consider what has been done in the Morea, since March, when the insurrection first broke out.

As the Turks, immediately on the breaking out of the revolt, withdrew into the fortresses, the Greeks had no enemy to contend with in the open field, and there was no need of thousands of people flying before them. The Mainots and Moreats, as usual, made much noise and confusion, robbed and murdered as much as possible; but they only took a few of the smallest forts by starving the garrisons. The larger fortresses, however, are still held by the Turks, in spite of the want to which the garrisons in them are exposed. Thus they occupy Napoli di Romania, with a garrison (as they say) of fifteen thousand men, Koron with four thousand men, Motun with two thousand men, Patrass with six thousand men, and Tripolizza with eight thousand men. But even if these should at length fall, the merit of taking them will be but trifling, as the Turks had no time to provide themselves in their fortresses against being besieged, and are now dying from want of provisions. With such an enemy within, the larger the garrison the sooner they must fall.

Besides, it is well known that the Turks have no knowledge of fortification or the management of artillery, and are therefore entirely restricted to their personal bravery and endurance; with which they have hitherto been able, although oppressed by famine, to resist the many attacks and storms of the Greeks.

Tripolizza was besieged these two months by Ypsilanti and Katakusi, whose army was estimated from between twenty to three thousand men; but without being able to reduce the famished garrison to surrender.

Thus, within five months and a half very little has been effected against the enemy, although so much reduced in means of defence. Only since the arrival of the princes in Morea the military affairs have obtained a better form, although not a better spirit; moreover, all the improvements are confined to the spot where prince Ypsilanti commands in person.

Much more however has been effected by the islanders of the Archipelago, especially by the inhabitants of Hydra and Spezia. Their naval forces are considerable, and they are daily gaining some advantage over their enemies.

The heroine Bobolina was from the latter island; she armed three ships against the Turks, two of which were commanded by her sons, and the largest by herself. She lost one of her sons in the contest; but she was then as much animated by the feeling of revenge as by the love of her country. She already has taken many ships.

Another fair heroine, of the family Morogeni of Constantinople, fitted out several ships against the Turks for herself and sons in June last.

It is more than probable that the Greeks will always keep the superiority on sea, and that therefore the islands at least will be wrested from the Turks. But it would be still more gratifying if there were more union and concord between the different islands, and would be sooner conducive to victory.

On the other side of the isthmus, especially in Rumili, the affairs of the Greeks stand much better. On the beginning of the siege of Janina, the Turkish forces were very considerable. But on the Greeks separating from them they were reduced to five thousand, with which they continue besieging Ali-Pacha, but are at the same time hemmed in themselves by a Greek host of about twenty-five thousand men, Albanese, Epirots, Pargists, Suliot, &c. under the command of Sturnari and Zonkas, who are sometimes joined by the brave Suliot chief Roti, with his wandering troop.

These brave tribes, to which perhaps we may also soon reckon the Servians, for the moment laid aside their hatred towards the southern Greeks, and bravely opposed the Turks. They took

Sulli in Epirus and one of the suburbs of Parga, and it is hoped that the generous Pargiots will soon again repossess themselves of the tombs of their fathers. There too the brave Odysseus was very active with his small army.

It is well known that the power of the Porte is much weakened and paralyzed; but, notwithstanding this, she is still very powerful, and the bravery of her troops has hitherto proved an adamant wall against the aggressions of the Greeks, whose armies are deficient of many advantages possessed by the Turks.

Such as I know the Greeks they are, as yet, perfectly unripe for the formation of a federative government. This truth had been long observed by the more enlightened part of the nation; and, therefore, they established those schools at Smyrna, Chios, Cydonia, &c. which, being connected among each other, and with the foreign travels and studies of these young men, were to prepare the nation for their future enjoyment of liberty. But this wise plan was abandoned too soon, and the present premature insurrection broke out.

The Greeks want a powerful central government, whether their government be monarchical or federative. But they ought to have a severe struggle before they can be matured for such a state of civilization. For if by means of foreign assistance they should obtain their independence, as it were by a sudden start, we might expect to see a repetition of those scenes which desolated Hellas after Alexander's death. The common enemy having once disappeared, individual ambition would exert itself, and we should perhaps find Ypsilanti, Katakusi, Kantakuzens, and a host of others fighting for the possession of the throne of Stambul.

But even should not this civil strife take place, and should one individual, without opposition, obtain the empire of the east, it would require a great genius to neutralize and amalgamate the heterogeneous parts which compose the Greek population, and to introduce an improved mode of government and administration among them; but such a genius has not yet appeared in Greece.

If I yet consider the horrid murders committed at Constantinople, Smyrna, and elsewhere, which will be repeated as long as the smallest Turkish power shall remain in Greece; if I consider that the cruelties of the Turks are every where returned by the Greeks; if I consider the dreadful slaughter of thousands of Jews, I feel myself induced, as a man and a Christian, to wish that some great neighbouring power would interfere, and compel the Porte to grant to the Greeks a general amnesty, a just and equitable treatment for the future, security for their persons and property, and to watch over the execution of these concessions, with a powerful army stationed in the country, and thus put a

stop to the exterminating war between both parties, and to restore, at least, an outward peace, till time and circumstances should bring about other changes.

Such is the posterity of the old Spartans; such are the Moreots, who, among the Greeks are not only the haughtiest, but, also, the most cowardly. Whither has the fortitude and contempt of life which characterized their ancestors fled? Whither are those gone to whom earthly possessions and bodily pains were equally indifferent? That race is fled, never to return, like every thing great and beautiful that is once gone; it will not rise again, —certainly not in *this* generation.*

* No possible reliance can be placed on the accounts of the war given by Greeks only. Thus, towards the close of July it was reported in Zante, for at least the eighth time, that Tripolizza had surrendered; that the fort of Patrasso had been taken by storm after a dreadful slaughter; in the same manner that it was afterwards announced at Corfu, that Solinich, with her immense treasures, had surrendered to Odysseus.

The following facts respecting Janina may be depended upon, as coming from a very good source. The town of Janina, situated on the left side of the lake, and which contains about 60,000 inhabitants, is in the hands of the Turks. It has three forts, named Kuta, Lidarize, and Kastro; all of which are still in the hands of Ali-Pacha. Into the latter, which is the strongest, he has thrown himself, with all his immense treasures which were before in Lidarize, but which he had removed in time. These three forts have, for some time past, been besieged by a body of 5000 Turks. They were three times stronger when the siege began, yet when the Greeks separated from them, only 5000 remained. Since the rising of the Greeks these Turks are surrounded by a Greek army, said to be 25,000 strong. It appears this measure has had no particular result. The two Greek leaders are Sturnari and Zouka, and they are now and then joined by the wandering troop of the brave Sulliot Noti.

Ali-Pacha has not yet passed over to the Christian religion, nor has he taken a Christian name. This erroneous statement was caused by his once hoisting the Greek standard, a silver cross raised above the crescent, on the towers of Kastro, which he did to demonstrate his friendship for them.

It is impossible to give an exact account of the Greek armies. The common calculation is:

Under Demetry Ypsilanti's chief command, although divided into several corps, and engaged with the siege of the different fortresses	30,000 men
Before Janina, under the command of Sturnari and Zouka, consisting of Sulliotics, Epirots, Pargiots, Albanes, Montenegrines, &c.	25,000
The corps of Odysseus	4,000
The corps of Sulliotics and Pargiots commanded by Noti	3,000
The remains of the army of A. Ypsilanti on the Danube	3,000
Various undefined bodies, which appear sometimes in one place, sometimes in another, separate and re-united	5,000
	<hr/> 70,000

On the other hand the Turkish armies employed against the Greeks are estimated as follows:

The army of Moldavia and Wallachia and their dependencies	60,000 men
The besieging army before Janina	5,000

LETTER VI.

Zante, August.

THIS island is very frequently visited with destructive earthquakes, which occur almost regularly every twenty or twenty-five years. The concussions generally proceed from N. W. to S. E. accompanied by gusts of wind in the same direction, which often last for several days, during which a change also occurs in the atmosphere.

All the earthquakes which have taken place in modern times, particularly those of Lisbon and Calabria, were felt in the Ionian islands, but more especially in Zante. The same effects have been produced by the eruptions of Etna and Vesuvius.

Those earthquakes, which arise from the bosom of the island, and terminate in undulating motions, are the most dangerous. They return at regular periods, and at such times put the inhabitants in consternation. Traces of their destructive effects are every where to be met with. Those of 1650, 1673, 1696, 1713, 1727, 1742, 1767, 1791, and 1820, are most distinguished for their violence.

That of 1767 began on the 11th of July, and lasted, with short interruptions, till the 9th of August. Every day concussions were felt, seemingly arising from the centre of the earth, which terminated in undulating motions. Slighter concussions were felt even two months later. Besides its dreadful ravages, this earthquake also occasioned an epidemic disease.

On the 2d of November, 1791, this scourge, with all its terrors, returned with a hot and sultry atmosphere, and a concussion from S. E. to N. W. It lasted for several minutes, but was not felt with equal force in all parts of the island. The whole

Garrisons in the different fortresses of Rumili	-	20,000 men
Garrisons in the different forts of Morea	-	35,000
		<hr/>
		120,000 men

But I repeat that these statements cannot be depended upon. No one knows the truth. We may, however, suspect that the foregoing account is in favour of the Greeks.

Unprejudiced Greeks do justice to the excellent and quick administration of justice among the Turks, especially in *Constantinople*, *Thessalonica*, *Adrianople*, *Magnesia*, *Smyrna*, and in the whole of *Anatolia*, and relate anecdotes respecting it which excite the highest admiration. They justly fear that this at least would be unfavourably altered upon Greece becoming free. Old Smyrniots still remember the justice and uncommonly good qualities of *Karasmanoglu* and *Zapanoglu*. The Greeks in those cities and districts were much favoured by the Porte, frequently even to the detriment of the Turks themselves. Only the despotic horrors of the Pachas were insufferable.

of the western part remained uninjured, but all the buildings in the eastern part, situated on eminences, especially the fortress of Zante, were completely destroyed; and six villages at the foot of the mountains were totally changed into heaps of rubbish. In the city not a house remained without being more or less injured; many were entirely overthrown. It was a remarkable circumstance, that low houses, the walls of which had been consolidated by age, suffered the most; whilst modern houses of three or four stories high were hardly impaired. Square pillars, raised for the support of roofs, were seen turned upon their axis. One wall of four feet in diameter, and six feet high, was entirely demolished, and, as it were, reduced to dust, whilst close by it a thin, slightly-built wall had stood its ground. In several parts of the coast the earth opened. During the first week or ten days after this event, a dismal calm prevailed at sea. The air was hot and sultry, and filled with a dense vapour. The sun seemed perfectly pale and burning hot. Every where, but particularly in St. Mark's square, in Zante, was a strong smell of sulphur. Every day brought some concussions, but considering the shattered state of the houses, they did little damage. Above twenty persons were buried under the ruins, and thirty were wounded; but many more died through fear.

The earthquake of 1820—21 seemed to keep its ruinous effects from the hills, only extending its devastations along the coast. Zante suffered dreadfully by it, particularly the streets near the sea-side. In other respects it commenced in the same manner as that of 1790. It began on the 16th of December, and lasted for a fortnight with unequal violence.

On the 6th of January, 1821, the strongest concussions were felt. They caused the greatest destruction in Zante. After the 6th a most furious hurricane excited the sea to such a degree, that it produced inundations, which did much mischief. This earthquake, unlike the former, singled out the high buildings. I lived in one of those houses which had been but scantily repaired, being without windows, stair-rails, and other conveniences. I can look through the shattered walls. The yard is full of ruins, over which an old orange-tree, which as yet, preserved under the fall of the adjoining houses, raises its blooming top. In the same manner, a neighbouring garden lies covered with stones and rubbish, but in the midst of these stand a beautiful pomegranate-tree and an oleander, both in bloom! How wretched was the sight of Zante in those days of desolation. All houses, more or less damaged, stood open, forsaken by their inhabitants. The terrified people of both sexes and every station, void of every feeling except that of danger, ran against each other in the most horrid confusion, hastening to the

image of their saint, from whom alone they expected help. Towards the middle of January all danger was past.

The earthquakes are often followed for a long time by rain and fog, which are productive of epidemic disorders, which prove always more violent and obstinate at Zante than in any other part of the islands.

Herodotus mentions having seen a lake on Zakynthus which produced bitumen (naphtha); any thing thrown into this lake, he says, passes under-ground, and again appears, four stades off, on the surface of the sea.

In the west of the island, near the village of Chieri, is a beautiful plain of about three leagues in circumference, surrounded by mountains. Here the air is noxious, and causes protracted fevers; as is evident from the pallid countenances of the inhabitants. In the middle of this plain, about a quarter of a league from the sea-shore, are two naphtha-springs, at a distance of about 200 paces from each other. They seem to take their rise in the interior of the earth to the east, turning to the west towards the sea. In these the naphtha is always boiling and bubbling up. It has a very strong smell. The surface of the naphtha, to the depth of about a foot, is covered with water of a light brown colour. This water, notwithstanding the perpetual motion of the naphtha, seems to remain unmoved; and it is remarkable, that both the naphtha and the water are perfectly cool, even during the greatest summer heat. The boiling of the naphtha, however, is stronger in summer than in the other seasons; but during the earthquakes it is said to be the most violent; a proof that they both proceed from the same cause.

Without these springs the earthquakes on the island would be more violent and more frequent. They seem to serve them as conductors, for near them the concussions are the strongest. I noticed here the same peculiarity as in the Solfatara near Naples, and on several spots on Vesuvius and Etna. On stamping forcibly against the ground, I felt the earth for some time trembling all around, and heard a strong echo from the deep within. Often, also, near these springs, as well as in other places, a violent subterraneous noise and howling is heard, which sometimes last for days. The whole plain, probably, is hollow, and was formerly a lake, which, by the falling down of some of the hills, during an earthquake, may have been reduced to the present shape.

The English have frequently attempted to find the bottom of these springs, but without effect; and every buoyant substance thrown into them will always re-appear on the surface of the sea.

Towards the month of April the naphtha in these springs so accumulates, that they sometimes run over. It is at this period

that the substance is collected with pails. From the pits in which the natives collect the naphtha they carry the water into the sea, by means of channels. The naphtha is then put in casks or leather bags, and sold to be used as pitch.

The water of the larger pond is of a very saline taste, and preserves a strong smell of pitch. But the water in the other pond is sweet, and has but little smell. The latter is of great efficacy in the fevers which so frequently attack the inhabitants. It has also been successfully employed by foreign sailors as a remedy for the scurvy.

When dried in the sun, this naphtha forms an almost indestructible cement; which may be seen on the stones with which the natives have lined their collecting-pits. The naphtha which has flowed between them has so closely bound them together, that they may more easily be broken than severed.

But these naphtha-springs are not the only volcanic indications on the island. In the north-west of it I saw, near the Capo del Grotto, not far from the sea-shore, the spring of sulphureous water which, owing to its powerful smell, the natives call Βρομονερο, stinking water. This they use for various disorders in their cattle. There are other mineral springs in the island, which, however, I did not see; for instance, a kind of chalybeate, which is said to be very salubrious.

Near the Cape Skinari are deep caverns, from which flows a white oily substance, which coagulates on the surface of the water. It is, most probably, a good species of naphtha, but it has not as yet been examined. During calms, large stripes of it draw over the sea. All the qualities of this naphtha, especially its powerful and disagreeable smell, called to my mind the St. Quirinus' oil at Tegerensee.

The discovery of fresh-water-springs on the sea-shore is a remarkable circumstance. The sea-water sometimes covers them to the depth of a foot, without depriving them of any of their sweetness. They are said to be found on the shores of several of the Ionian islands, at a depth of one foot under the sand, after the sea-water has been removed from them.

The island of Zante, almost on every point, shews rocks projecting into the sea; in these are several deep caverns, said to be connected by subterraneous roads and passages, but which have never been investigated.

Robert, Wheler, and Spon, and more recent travellers, have called Zante the *golden island*, and in Italy it bears the poetical name of *fios di Levante*. This I did not think very *a-propos*, on arriving, in the height of summer, and seeing the naked mountains, torn asunder by earthquakes, and almost cleared of human habitations; for Virgil's *nemo rosa Zacynthus* is one of those terms

of antiquity, which now-a-days have lost their truth. There are no forests; but, on penetrating into the interior of the island, the plain between and on the declivity of the mountains, displays both beauty and abundance, so that the title of woody is in part verified.

Yet, as this abundance is solely confined to currants and oil, it seems to be of rather a precarious nature: for their other wants of corn, cattle, &c. the Zantiots produce for four months only of the year in their own island, and for the remaining two-thirds of the year, supplies are drawn from the Morea for cash. The corn is partly imported from Egypt and partly from the Black Sea. But when the *passolina*, or currants, by a single untimely shower, are spoiled, or when the plague or political circumstances, as at this time, oppose their connection with the Morea, then the Zantiots have not even money to purchase the most indispensable necessities of life from the Moreats.

The currants, called here *uxa-passa* or *passolina*, were brought from Corinth, and introduced into this island about two hundred and twenty-five years ago. They succeeded so well that the greatest part of the island, where formerly the corn required for home consumption was grown, was gradually given up to their cultivation. This little island now, in good years, produces between twelve and thirteen millions of pounds of these grapes; in common years, between ten and eleven millions. The currant-trade of Zante is almost entirely in the hands of the English.

The vine, which produces this grape, is low, and requires seven or eight years before it begins to bear properly. But, on the other hand, it lasts for centuries, and some were shewn to me that were said to be two hundred years old. These grapes are small, about the size of our currants. The fresh grape is also of a very pleasant taste, possessing a little acidity, which naturalizes their great sweetness. Their treatment is the same as in Italy, but requires infinite care. The careless and lazy Neapolitans and Sicilians, who take so little concern about their excellent vines, would not be fit for the cultivation of the *passolina*. After the vintage, the grapes are immediately exposed to the sun, for the purpose of drying, which process only requires a fortnight.

Considering the many dangers which threaten the *passolinas*, as long as they are exposed for drying, the Zantiotes, during this time, are under the greatest apprehensions. One small shower alone is sufficient to extend the time of drying, and greatly injures the quality of the fruit. But if the rain continues, all precautions are unavailing: the grapes begin to rot, they must be thrown away, without saving even a small

quantity for their cattle. When they have been successfully dried, they are carried in bags to the *seraglios*, or warehouses, where they are kept. The receipt of the keeper of the seraglio, as to their quantity and quality, given to the owner, passes for a circulating medium, which may be negotiated.

Another and safer branch of the wealth of Zante is its oil. Wherever there is no passolina, the olive is found.

In the year 1711, a hurricane tore up all the olive-trees. The injury would have been immense; but the natives immediately re-planted them, cut them off, and preserved them carefully at the roots against the effects of the sun. Soon after, they had the satisfaction of seeing the trees again thriving, and after a few years they again bore fruit.

The olives grown in Zante are of two species. The natives, called *nostrani*, which yield an inferior oil, and the *dacoron*, so named from the place in the Morea from which they were transplanted hither. The latter yield a better oil, although not equal to that of the Morea, and they are the most productive. The olives are not shaken but plucked off.

From the passolina they make also wine, which is oily, very strong, and a fine stomachic cordial. It is not made from the fresh grape, but after it has been dried for four or five days, and partially protected from the sun. When the grapes are crushed, one-third of water is added; nevertheless, the wine is thick and of a dark colour; but, when in the cask, it becomes finer. Besides this, Zante has two other kinds of wine, one of which is made of the muscadel grapes. Both are excellent, but the latter, when old, equals the best Sicilian wine in strength and taste.

The common red and white wines are also sweet, but the ground, impregnated with sulphur, salt, and lime, which produces them, imparts to them a heady quality, which the owners are in the habit of increasing by artificial admixtures, the Zantiotes being very fond of strong wines.

The wine grown here amounts to about eight thousand casks annually, and is sufficient for all home-consumption, and for shipping.

The island being without forests, all the wood for firing, building, and domestic utensils, is imported from the Morea and Albania; and the poor burn the olive-stones.

I found but few myrtles and laurels in my rambles, but now and then pomegranate-trees, which are still more frequent in the neighbouring Morea. Horticulture and agriculture are little known in Zante. In the harvest-time between four and five thousand Zantiotes go over into the Morea, to assist the inha-

bitants in their harvest. They are paid in corn, and thus they bring home a supply of grain for four or five months.

Almost all the cattle for killing come from the Morea, especially the sheep, which there, as well as on the islands, are still in the true Homeric style, roasted whole on the spit. Their hard salt cheese is also imported from the same country. A few only are kept on the Zantian rocks and mountains.

A strange, and, on coming from Sicily, a striking circumstance is the multitude of carriage-roads which cross this island in almost all directions, with a total want of vehicles. The country-people employ asses, mules, and horses for the carriage of their goods. How much time, strength, and expense would they save, if they used small waggons.

It is said that musquitos are very troublesome here, and that there are poisonous worms and insects; but I have not noticed any thing of this, although I always slept with open windows in a dilapidated and deserted house, where there could certainly be no deficiency of insects, worms, spiders, and lizards.

The chase is only known here by name. Even birds are scarce on this volcanic island. On this account the sportsmen of Zante, at the beginning of spring, take an annual trip to the Morea. There they beat through the Elysian fields and forests, and either bring the produce of their chase home to their families, or make it an object of trade.

There is scarcely any fishing on the coasts. Fish must be caught on the coast of Morea; a circumstance which, in Zante, makes this article scarce and very expensive.

In the south of the island, near the village Agala, which lies in the midst of hills and rocks, the inhabitants carry on a strange kind of fishery, which might rather be called a chase. Agala lies three leagues from the sea. Thither a path leads over the horrible cliffs and precipices. From my infancy I have been accustomed to similar countries, and have acquired some skill in passing such roads; but I never saw this equalled, and I scarcely ventured one hundred and sixty steps upon this path, which I should have considered as being inaccessible to man, had I not seen a man and a boy coming from Agala to Chieri, who, moreover, were both loaded. Upon this frightful path they walk with ease and security, to try a still more dangerous experiment for a trivial profit.

Having arrived upon the cliffs over the sea, which breaks itself furiously against them, they fix a thick rope to one of the rocks. By this rope they let themselves down into the sea, where the surf is the least violent. Along the shore are several caverns, in which the seal, which they pursue, keep themselves

concealed. The hunter is armed with a pistol. In order to arrive at the entrance of the caverns, he must wade through the water up to his neck. In his right-hand he holds the pistol above his head, and in his left the rope. The hunter must hit the animal in the head, that being the only part where it can be mortally wounded. Every other wound is but slight, and will not prevent the seal from rushing into the sea and escaping. If the animal is killed, the hunter flays it in the cave, since he only takes its skin and fat. Of the former he makes his shoes, and the latter he burns in his lamp. This sport takes place in spring. I have not witnessed it myself, but I received the account from persons well-informed on the subject.

LETTER VII.

Zante, August.

OWING to the shortness of my stay, my excursions into the interior were confined to the Monte Scopo, the naphtha-springs, to Chieri, and Agala, returning the western side of the island through Nata; I, however, saw every thing on this road.

I must acknowledge I was every where well received with my guide, which was very acceptable in the heat of the day. It is true, I found, in the poor mountain-cottages, but few comforts; however, I met with good-will, a quality not to be attributed to the Zantiotes exclusively, but to their neighbours the Cephalonians.

I should, certainly, not like to remain at night alone and unarmed among these people, who, under the abominable Venetian government, carried on the trade of murder and pillage to a great extent, and partly carry it on still; yet, in the day-time, and with that confidence which will always keep such vile rabble in awe, we ventured among them. Respecting the insecurity of the island, on account of the numerous banditti, the English have done much good. In their peculiar manner they exercise a very speedy and severe justice, which has already shewn its good effects. In the time of the Venetian dominion, the impunity of murder was almost publicly acknowledged. For a slight sum a wretch was permitted to assassinate whoever he pleased. Every day some murder was committed in the town or in the country. It was considered as a common event. Crowds collected round the victim, not to assist, but to behold his agonies, which, to the Zantiotes, formed a pleasing sight. The assassin was often among the spectators. Nay, he was even daring enough to laugh at the tears and lamentations of the wife and children over the murdered corpse, while he still held the bloody steel in

his hand. This was not surprising in a place where almost every respectable family had such *bravi* in their pay, and where they, in some measure, belonged to the household. The murderers were some time at Smyrna, where they carried on the same trade; they afterwards returned to Zante, where the past had, in the mean time, been absorbed by more recent events.

In my wanderings in the interior I sought the beauties which could induce Strabo, Pliny, and Herodotus to speak so highly of this island, and Homer and Virgil to confer on it flattering epithets. These high panegyrics I did not find confirmed. It is true, I saw many delightful spots in the plain, which comprises two-thirds of the island, on the declivities of the hills, and among the steep mountains themselves; I found many a smiling hill—but where is the like not to be found? I inhaled, particularly in the evening, the fragrance of a thousand blossoms and aromatic herbs; but is this not every where the same in the south of Italy, and in Sicily? Besides, there is a privation which will always strip the interior of Zante of the greatest charm, the want of springs and a river. There is, indeed, a torrent on the east-side of the island, but it only contains water during the rains in autumn and winter. Even in those periods it is but small, on which account it is named *Fiumaxa*.

To this may be added, the *axia cultiva* about Litakia, Sakochinado, Ambello, Chieri, and even here and there in the vicinity of the town of Zante. One thing, however, is peculiarly beautiful and charming in Zante; and this is its *Monte Scopo*, called Elatos the Noble.

This epithet could not have been given to the mountain for its height, for which it is rather inconsiderable, as the Monte Nero, in the neighbouring island of Cephalonia, looks proudly down upon it. But the destination of Monte Scapo was noble, for its summit bore the famous temple of the mild *Artemis* or *Diana*. No traces of this temple are now to be seen; in the village of Melinado, in a church dedicated to St. Dimitri, a stone is placed near the altar, the inscription of which commemorates the consecration of a virgin to the service of Diana, by her parents. The portico of the same church is supported by four marble columns, of one foot in diameter, which may have formed a part of that temple. On its scite now stands the convent of the Madonna di Scopo, which is rather an extensive structure, although it only contains an abbot, a preacher, and two monks of the order of St. Basil. The convent is rich, and splendidly fitted up within. The office of the abbot is always vested in a clergyman of an old noble family. The present abbot, too, is an ancient noble. The convent, although situated on the

summit of the mountain, is built in a dell, which protects it from the violent winds. Close by it is a small wood and rock, where the air must be very cold in autumn and in winter, but which presents the most beautiful prospects. Many pilgrimages are undertaken to this convent, either for heaven or the earth, for it also serves the inhabitants of Zante as a resort for amusement, and oftentimes their joy is displayed in very loud and, sometimes, even indecorous expressions.

Both the abbot and his monks are distinguished for their kindness to strangers; a monk and the young sculptor to whom study has been assigned in the convent, conducted me to the above-mentioned rock, from which they pointed out to me the whole island of Zante, together with the beauties of the neighbouring Peloponnesus in the golden light of the evening sun. There I saw to the left Cephalonia, Leukas, and Ithaca, with the mountains of Acarnania, and adjoining the Capo Tornese on the site of the ancient Kyllone; more to the right, in the interior of the country, the Erymanthus; straight before me, the well-known Elis, with Olympia and the faithful Alpheus. I even thought I could distinguish the low mountain of Saturn. More to the south begin the Triphylian hills. Behind them I discerned Ithome and the Spartan Taggetus; in clear days, even the Strophadian islands are seen.—Evening was now approaching; dark blue shades descended upon the Doric hills; the Peloponnesus gradually vanished from my sight.

The courteous abbot would not allow me to return to town, although the distance is only one league and a half; he pleaded the danger of the road in the evening. At break of day next morning, I left the hospitable convent and its philanthropic inhabitants.

LETTER VIII.

Zante, August.

ZANTE, on the eastern side of the island, lies on the declivity of several mountains, one of which presents a steep, naked, and shattered appearance; upon this is built the fort, which commands the city. The others, however, more resemble a chain of green hills, which form the fore-ground to Monte Scopo, rising behind them in beautiful waving slopes towards the south. The Finmara, when it has any water, enters almost in the centre of the bay from the plain. With the exception of Monte Scopo, and the green hills at its foot, all the mountains look bare and bleak.

The city itself surprised me much by the German appearance of its architecture, which is peculiarly striking on approaching from the south of Italy. Every thing reminded me of my native

country. The houses were neat and clean, and principally one or two stories high, with pointed roofs. The roofs, windows, and the painting or colouring of the houses, seems to be borrowed from our country. The reason for building the houses so low is the frequency of earthquakes.

On entering into the city, its German character is lost amid many peculiarities. Zante has no distinguished buildings; for what is termed the Bishop's palace, certainly does not deserve the name; nor do the churches or the houses built by the English, after the last earthquake, for their resident governor, the collector of the customs, the government-house, &c.

Almost every street and square shows traces of this earthquake; but they gradually disappear, giving place to new structures.

The principal square of Zante is that of St. Mark, so called after that of Venice: but with this it bears no similarity, except in the name. Its irregularity, a sort of distorted triangle surrounded by a wretched low arcade, which was partly destroyed by the earthquake, only leads to unfavourable comparisons. Under these arcades are some insignificant jewellers' shops, whose heavy and clumsy articles shew the degree of taste possessed by the inhabitants in this respect. The principal coffee-house is also under these arcades, and is certainly the largest in the city. It is frequented by the lawyers, physicians, and merchants; and here I have heard many a sensible and striking opinion on the affairs of the Greeks. In the square adjoining the principal guard of the English soldiers is stationed, under a cover of vine-leaves, which shelters them from the sun. Near this is the Latin or Roman Catholic cathedral of St. Mark, which is rather small, and distinguished by no work of art nor any particular splendour. An attempt was made to impose upon me in showing me a picture of our Saviour as by the old Palma, and a St. Francis and Elijah by Titian, but the deception was too gross to pass.

Near St. Mark's, by the side of a small Greek church, is the well-known monument of the British governor of the Ionian islands, General Sir Thomas Maitland. It is a large, high pedestal, on which is placed a bronze bust of Sir Thomas; underneath is a small basso relievo of bronze, shewing Minerva embracing Virtue with her right arm, but throwing a veil over Vice in a crouching attitude;—an English symbol of the political events in Zante. Both the bust and basso relievo are well executed. Below the latter is the following inscription:

ΘΝΜΑΙ ΤΩΙ ΜΑΙΤΑΑΝΔΙΩΙ
ΖΑΚΥΝΘΙΟΙ
ΔΙΑ ΤΑΣ ΧΡΗΕΤΑΣ ΕΑΠΙΔΑΕ
ΑΝΙΖ.

“To Thomas Maitland, the Zakynthians, on account of their good hopes, 1817.”

The whole is surrounded by stone posts and bronze chains, and deserves great commendation for its noble simplicity.

Adjoining St. Mark's is the market for the sale of provisions, called *Piazza dell' Erbe*; it is merely a narrow, dirty lane, where the country people expose their vegetables, fruit, eggs, cheese, &c. for sale. Here are also shops for the sale of salt-fish, with peaches, and rusty bacon, all mixed together. In this narrow, dirty lane, is the *Caff  de' Nobili*; where, formerly, nobles only were admitted. Now they have become more liberal, and people fond of market-cries, dirt, and peculiar smells, may go thither even without a pedigree. I could not forbear visiting the spot a few times. Whoever may wish to hear conversations on the short-sighted policy of Russia; on the electors of Germany, whose health is still drank by these kind gentlemen; on the good qualities of the King of Naples; on Napoleon's arrival in England, &c. must go to this place. I could not possibly make the gentlemen conceive, why the emperor Francis was now no longer called the second, but the first, for the stock of their ideas has not yet reached so far as the dissolution of the German empire.

This dirty market leads to the principal street of Zante, which, in the Venetian style, is called *Calle Larga*. Here are the handsomest houses, clean, and one story high. The arcades which support them run along both sides of the street, and there are the shops and warehouses. The streets are badly paved, which is peculiarly disagreeable, after the foot has been accustomed to fine large paving slabs: the place of St. Mark itself is paved in this style. The *Calle* extends to about an English mile in length.

On the south side of the hills below the Monte Scopo, are the buildings of the lazaretto, for those who are put under quarantine. Thank God! I escaped this confinement. Here the masts of the ships which were sunk last year in the harbour, are still seen projecting above the surface. They went down with their full cargoes, and nothing could be saved.

The interior of the houses is comfortable, and often elegant. Among the English, and the well-informed Greeks, we meet with every domestic comfort. But the difference among the other Greeks is very great, and among them their favourite Turkish fashions prevail. They even keep the windows of the apartments of the ladies grated on the outside, by which means they suppose them impenetrable to every stranger's eye. A great, and to me, in a southern climate, inconceivable inconvenience, is the hot floor of fir-deals, the receptacle of all sorts of vermin.

If these slight floors are used on account of the earthquakes, they ought, at least, not to have them on the plains.

Of the sanguinary disposition and depravity of the Zantiots under the Venetian government, I have spoken in my last letter. According to English report, the people in the city, as well as in the rest of the island, still possess all the bad qualities which formerly distinguished them; only that they are restrained by strict justice and an ever-vigilant police. As I heard these same Englishmen doing justice to the good qualities of the neighbouring Cephalonians, I am inclined to think them correct in their opinion with respect to the inferior classes of the people: but that excellent individuals are found among the higher classes, I know from experience.

Oriental habits are strongly indicated in the dress, which is only a modified Turkish; in the turban, caftan, arms, pompous walk, and motions; and, above all, in the internal customs of the house. Here, too, women, married and unmarried, are seldom seen, but in the gloom of the evening they are met in swarms, who, whether dressed in black or white, are always veiled, and move through the streets like the swans of the river Kayster. It is remarkable that many of these companies are seen without any male attendant. But notwithstanding all this retirement, a depravity of morals is said to prevail among the Zantian females, such as is not to be found in any other of the Ionian islands. Judging by what I saw, few among the women or girls may be called handsome. But even these few disfigure their natural charms by their awkwardness of deportment and dress. They are, at the same time, such as the eastern people wish to see their wives,—uncultivated and illiterate in a strange degree.

In Italy, ignorance and want of refinement are common enough among females; yet they are occasionally counter-balanced by great beauty or originality, which, at least for the moment, surprise and please. Among the women of the east nothing is original, except the wide contrast between their mental and personal attractions.

The men of Zante, on the other hand, have many good qualities; and among these I reckon their politeness to strangers. I have met with kindness from poor people, without being able to make them accept any thing for it more than my best thanks. This is very striking after coming from Italy. Of Italian manners we find some vestiges in the immoderate gesticulations with their heads and hands in speaking. This custom has existed since the time of the Venetians.

But one thing not to be met with in Italy is the pretty and modest manner of the beggars and beggars' children. They

have something so insinuating in their solicitations, that it is difficult to refuse them.

I was told that they have here a very good establishment for education, where, besides the Greek, Latin, and Italian grammar, the literature of these languages, archæology, &c. are said to be taught. But I have not been able to visit it. Many wealthy young Zantiots frequent the universities of Italy, Germany, and France : but not one of them has returned during the recent events in Greece.

The Greeks here are strangely mixed. First, a great portion of Moreats, then the Albanese, Epirots, Sulliots, Hydriots, Saliots, all wearing their more or less beautiful original dresses. According to what I have been told by the English police, there are now here above 7000 Moreats, who have fled hither with their families and property. Among these are about 2500 men and youths capable of bearing arms. I have seen these people scattered about the town and the country in crowds, otherwise I should not have believed it.*

There are but few Latin or Roman Catholic Christians living here. In spiritual matters they are under a bishop ; but

* The English government may be said to act inconsistently in supporting those sturdy Greeks in Zante, where they have never an abundance of provisions, which now, in consequence of the increased consumption, have become much dearer. Yet, with the principles adopted by this government, this may easily be understood, which, although it proclaimed its neutrality for both parties, nevertheless greatly assists the Turks, sending them corn and arms, and even surgeons ; whilst it strictly, and under the severest penalties, prohibits any supply being carried to the Greeks. What severe edicts it hurled against the Zantiots serving among the Greeks ; how violently it punished the captains Gianniessi and Dionysis Focca. The English government has discovered many connections of the Zantiots with the Greek armies in the Morea and Epirus, with Hydra and Spezia ; it has discovered many a well-concealed letter upon persons coming from the Morea and those islands ; yet it is very far from knowing the degree of participation of many inhabitants of Zante. Many things it, perhaps, does not even suspect. There are combinations, unknown to the English, which may lead to very important events, if the Greeks in the Morea, and the Hellenists in general, be prosperous. It is nothing new that the English are disliked in Zante. Much of this hatred was produced by their position against the Greeks, with whom the Zantiots still believe themselves united by fraternal ties. Imprudently, the Zantiots have already come to threats, assuring loudly, that at the proper season they shall find it easy to take the fort, and drive the English troops from the island. Although there is in all this much of the modern Greek bombast, no one can blame the English that they have been made doubly strict, cautious, and more averse to the cause of the Hellenists. However, the number of troops has not been increased yet. The garrison of the city and fort consists of about two battalions of riflemen. But the fort itself is very difficult of access, besides being well supplied with every requisite, and prepared for any attack. Only one English armed brig lies on the roads outside the harbour.

the Greeks are under their protopapas. Both he and the bishop are worthy men, and live on the most friendly terms with each other.

I frequently assisted at the exercise of the troops, and could not forbear admiring the precision with which they executed their various manœuvres. They were dressed in white, and were very clean. I do not know whether this colour becomes the rifleman, and is fit for the mountain-service. The Tyrolese sharpshooters certainly look more in character, and also take an infinitely better aim. Their defect in aiming would be injurious to the English troops, if hostilities were commenced with the inhabitants; for the Zantiots, like the natives of all the Ionian islands, are distinguished marksmen, and well know how to use their rifles on their steep crags, surrounded by precipices; and an English soldier could scarcely follow them through their glens and over their rocks. What could be undertaken against such mountaineers, if they were possessed of courage?—This is the comfort and security of the English.

The fort lies on a high, bare rock, commanding the city. Only one steep, narrow path leads up to it, and which is generally ascended on mules or horseback. Before the fortress lies the village of Bukoli, the inhabitants of which were notorious under the Venetian government for their vindictive and sanguinary spirit. The summit is reached over three draw-bridges, and the prospect from it, over the whole island and the Peloponnesus, is delightful. The fort lies on a chalk rock which, they say, daily decreases in height. Upon this the Zantiots build their hope, that the fort will one day be demolished by an earthquake or by water; an event which would certainly be very convenient for them. On this height excellent water and the purest air are found, which induces many rich people to live there. Other districts about the city may also be called agreeable, for instance, Krissopleti, the point near Strani, and the hill of Akratici. With this I bid farewell to Zante: to-morrow I sail for Cephalonia.

LETTER IX.

Cephalonia, August.

I PURPOSELY embarked in one of the boats, of which the masters have little trading concerns in all the Ionian islands; which induce them to stop for a few days in each. There was no one in the boat besides myself and five spirited Korfiots, who plied their oars merrily as often as a calm came on.

Before leaving the harbour in the evening I enjoyed a very

interesting sight. Some vessels, with Moreat families, had arrived at the custom-house from the quarantine hospital, who, having fled hither some time back, had now finished their seclusion, and received their discharge. They seemed to be wealthy people, perhaps persons of rank, as I concluded from the quantity and richness of furniture, carpets, plate, &c. which they brought with them. Among them was a handsome lady, with an infant: her features only expressed the delight and pleasure which she felt in the child, who was smiling to her while he played with the ends of her turban and her veil. Absorbed in maternal solicitude, she took no notice of the bustle among her people, who were carrying away the earthly treasures she had saved.

At sunset we started from the new Molo and left the harbour; but the wind being contrary, and the sailors wishing to rest till midnight, to gather strength for rowing, we cast anchor in a bay near Cape Shinari.

About midnight a boat, with singing females, approached us. Their airs were new, without being agreeable; for the national songs of the present day have, in general, something barbarous in them, which is grating to our ears. They sing much through the nose, and their songs are unsufferably monotonous. Towards one o'clock in the morning we rowed off. The adverse northerly wind allowed us to make little way, and the current in the channel of Cephalonia was also against us. During the heat of the middle of the day, we were again obliged to rest. The following morning at last brought us near the small rocky island, which is justly called Guardini for the navigator; and a favourable S. E. wind carried us into the harbour of Argostoli.

Argostoli lies on a small bog towards the east, which is a branch of the northern one, at the foot of a range of hills, behind which the high mountains belonging to the Monte Nero raise their heads. These hills are pretty well cultivated, which makes them an ornament of the town, which has no other. On one of them are windmills and a small village, and not far from it are marshes with a very noxious air.

There are not so many traces of the earthquakes under which this island suffered, coeval with Zante, as in the other island. The sanitary buildings and the house of the British resident are the best which the small town of Argostoli possesses. They have also a square of St. Mark here, which was formed from the space gained by the removal of a number of houses which were destroyed by earthquakes. As these earthquakes allow of no cellars, the inhabitants make use of the ground-floor to keep their wine, oil, and other stores; on which account the entrance to many houses is in the first floor, which is ascended by a flight of steps at the outside.

The English have completed many new and useful works here. One of their best is the Ponte Novo, a beautiful bridge built of stones similar to marble, over the neighbouring marshes. In the centre of it stands a pyramid, with an inscription.

The British resident, Colonel Travers, is very obliging to strangers.

Argostoli having no distinguished edifice, the stranger is the more surprised at the internal arrangement of the private houses belonging to wealthy merchants or to native noblemen. There every thing is in the European style. The luxuries of the west have entirely supplanted the customs of the Levant, which is not the case in the neighbouring island of Zante. Here we met with looking-glasses, carpets, lustres, elegantly bound libraries of books, with the old French and Italian classics, &c.

The amiable accomplishments of the inhabitants of this small town is in perfect unison with this external splendour; and the female sex is not excluded from it. I have made acquaintance with several married and unmarried ladies, who spoke very good French and very excellent Italian. To this many now add the English, and almost all the ancient, or what they call the literary Greek. I found many young merchants occupied in their leisure hours with astronomy and the study of ancient coins. Almost all the young gentlemen are educated abroad, in Germany, France, or Italy; so that none of the Ionians are so well informed as the Cephalonians.

With these literary attainments, the inhabitants of Argostoli unite the most cordial hospitality I ever saw. I only brought three letters with me from Zante. These would have been sufficient to procure me for months a kind reception, elegant lodgings and board, together with the most obliging kindness of treatment, in two good families, who were almost offended when I told them that my stay in Argostoli would only be for two days. They supplied me, however, with many letters to their friends and acquaintances in the interior of the island and the neighbouring isles.

Argostoli displays much wealth and mercantile spirit. The principal objects of their trade are currants, oils, wine, cotton, silk, fowls, &c. It is an interesting sight to see the wharf of Argostoli. The bustle here is very great, Argostoli having always the largest shipping among the cities of the Ionian islands.

Several of the Greek churches have no belfries, but their small bells are hung up between two cypress-trees, which, according to Greek custom, stand close by the church.

Here, too, I met with several Greeks who had fled, not only from northern Morea, but likewise from Epirus, Rumeli, the

ancient Acarnania, Ætolia, Lakris, and Bœotia. Thousands of them were said to be in the interior of the island, the small town not being sufficient to contain and provide for them.

I have obtained the acquaintance of many well-informed Greeks here, and from what I heard, my former opinions respecting the Moreat Greeks, and the Hellenist insurrection in general, were confirmed. Nay, on many subjects I was better informed, about which I could obtain no clear information even in the Morea, at Kalamata, and in Zante, and therefore left them unnoticed in my former letters, as it concerned matters injurious to the Greeks and the spirit by which they are led.

I formerly only faintly alluded to the want of harmony among themselves: I ought to have called it, separation and schism.—It began shortly after the breaking out of the insurrection, but became mischievous enmity, when, in June of this year, Prince Demetrius Ypsilanti appeared in the Morea, in the quality of delegate of his brother Alexander, then commanding on the Danube, and who was subsequently betrayed by the Greeks.

Demetrius appeared in Kalamata without any pecuniary means, surrounded by a kind of court formed of foreigners, demanding that the chief command of the war in the Morea should be given to him; and the metropolitans, bishops, and other chiefs who then held commands, should be placed under his authority. The temporary senate of Morea had no objection to this request; as they wished for the good of their country, and felt the necessity of having one leader to direct the whole; Demetrius, as the brother of Alexander, certainly could aspire to the gratitude and confidence of his countrymen: but the principal motive of the senate in their resolution was, by means of Ypsilanti to humble the arrogance of the clergy, who opposed them in every liberal wish and work; or, at least, to diminish their influence with the people.

But now the Lernæan hydra, which has destroyed so many fair and great enterprizes, priestly ambition and priestly pride, began to raise its head at Patras.

Before all, the metropolitan of this city, who at the beginning of the insurrection had been very active, but afterwards rather drew back, demanded the staff of the dictator and general-in-chief of the army. Similar pretensions, although in a more moderate manner, were made by Londogia, primate of Patras, the metropolitan of Kalamata, and the false Papa Diomondopulo. Behind them Andrea Loudo, the Bey of Maina, that of Kalamata, the brave Koloktroni, who has more merit than any of these, Gerakaris, Brosso, Pelimsa Sebastopalo, Maironi, with

many others, called out for commands, urging their early services, imaginary or real.

Demetrius Ypsilanti, however, who knew the Greeks, did not allow himself to be embarrassed by their noise; judging that he should gain his object sooner if he could strike at once a great blow; by which he should gain the public confidence. He also succeeded in immediately gaining over to his plan some of those non-clerical chiefs, who, at least, wished to see something done, and therefore deferred their ambitious views to another moment. Thus he marched with an army collected at random, and in which he introduced some order and discipline, against the principal fortress of the country, Tripolizza; hoping to take it by a coup-de-main. This army, I was told at Kalamata, amounted to at least twenty thousand men. The Moreats in Cephalonia, however, some of whom had seen it, assured me that there were not four thousand men in it. So difficult is it, even in the country itself, to get at the real state of the affairs!

But the starving Turks in Tripolizza offered a brave resistance; and, in the beginning of August, the fortress had not yet fallen. In the mean time many, who had calculated on a rapid, splendid, and lucrative success of the enterprize against the fortress, had left Ypsilanti, and either gone home or to the islands.

Demetrius now addressed himself to the powerful Hydriots, who are said to have acknowledged him as archistrategos, or general-in-chief. But the acknowledgment of Hydrais, not that of the continent, had no effect in the Morea, where it even proved injurious to the prince.

The hostility of the clergy, who had now become more powerful, against the prince, reduced his little army still more, and compelled him to renounce, for the present, the siege of Tripolizza, and withdraw with the troops who had remained with him to Leondari.

At that period suddenly a new light appeared in the Morea; from which, at first, great expectations were formed. It was Maurokordato, who had arrived in the peninsula from a French harbour, in company of some French officers. However, as long as I remained in Greece, it was not known that he had made any military achievement.

Morea is now divided into two parties, which again have their subdivisions, not, however, decidedly marked. The league of the clergy, with the metropolitan of Patras at their head, and that of Prince D. Ypsilanti. Here, again, the chiefs under him become discontented, by which they frustrate Ypsilanti's enterprises and confidence; as he is well acquainted with their views.

These parties not only refuse each other support, but they actually counteract themselves; and nothing more is wanted to

complete their wretchedness, but one of them joining the cruel Turks against their brethren. However, this is not to be apprehended.

Every one knows the great influence of the clergy over the ignorant mass of the Greek people; and, whoever has observed them closely, will agree with me that these people are more faithfully and firmly attached to their clergy, and the whole hierarchical Babel, than to their glorious cause.

It is owing to this unfortunate discord that the Turks are enabled to retain the wretched fortresses which still are in their hands; for, considering their want of provisions, ammunition, their deficiency of knowledge in artillery and fortification, all the fortresses would have been reduced, long ago, if the Greeks within them, whose numbers are as five to one against the Turks, had done their duty. But they, also, are divided, and only calculate on assistance without the walls.

Misguided by the information I received in Kalamata, I gave, in my former letters on the Greek affairs, a false statement of the fortresses taken by the Greeks, and those still in the hands of the Turks.

If the information of those intelligent Moreats in Argostoli be correct, (and it tallies with all creditable accounts received from the Morea) I gave the Greeks more than they hitherto had the courage to take. I then stated that they had taken the small forts of Navarino (Neo-Kastro), Monabasia, Corinth, and Kalamata. This is only true as regard Kalamata; of Monabasia uncertain, and of Navarino and Corinth false. For the latter are still bravely defended by the Turks.*

A proof how ill-informed the French newspapers are, is that they consider the small fort of Monabasia as being identically the same as the powerful Nauplia, or Napoli di Romania. Monabasia, the ancient Laconian Epidaurus, lies about twenty minutes N. from Cape Malea, and is also called Malvasia, and in Turkish Mengeshé. But Nauplia lies above one degree of latitude farther to the N. and is the principal fortress of the Morea. This error, which is shewn in every map, has been faithfully copied by other journals.

The success of the Greek arms in the Morea is, therefore, still less sure than I thought at that period; for Corinth is of great importance, in a military point of view, and Navarino has a garrison of 4000 men. If the Turks should advance over the isthmus, to relieve their fortresses in the Morea, they would find Corinth an excellent place of support.

* They have since been taken, together with Tripolizza and several others.—TRANS.

Thus, all the important fortresses in the Morea, Patras, Corinth, Napoli di Romania, Tripolizza, Coron, Modon, and Arcadia, are yet in the hands of the Turks, and those taken by the Greeks are reduced to a few small forts, such as Pyrgo, Vostitza, Kalamata, Kalavrita, Gastuni, Dimitzana, &c.; perhaps, also, the insignificant fort of Monabasia, which they had besieged in vain as early as the 5th of April.

A ruinous disunion is said to prevail now between the two islands of Hydra and Spezia, and the other important Sporeatos, such as Mykoni, who refuse submitting to their authority. I was assured that it had been seriously debated whether they should not withdraw and return home. The Greeks of Smyrna, and of the whole of Ionia, who believe that they have been sacrificed by their European brethren, are said to have greatly urged the execution of these plans. It would be terrible, if thus the superiority of the Greeks by sea should also be broken.

During the course of our conversation, I could not forbear hinting, with some warmth, to those gentlemen, the injury to their country by their unpatriotic flight. All of them agreed that appearances were against them, but assured me, that scarcely the sixth part of those which have actually fled, would have abandoned their country in this moment of danger, if those unhappy differences and discord, combined with the horrors and abominations practised by some of their own countrymen, had not deprived them of all hopes of a favourable issue; and, as it were, compelled them to retire. I then told them what had been done in Russia, in the year 1813; what glorious sacrifices were made, in 1813 and 1814, in Germany; and what kind of spirit had been displayed by our countrywomen in those days of danger and contest. They seemed to listen with emotion, but they said, "Yes, but that was a *national* war."

LETTER X.

Bay Viscardo, Cephalonia, August.

AN abbate, who took much interest in the antiquities of Cephalonia, offered to accompany me on my rambles through the island; a proposal which I gratefully accepted. We began by examining the antique ruins of a subterraneous passage, situated near the new fortress. They are evidently of the latter times of the Romans, and by no means remarkable. We then went to examine the walls of Cyclopiian architecture on the declivity of the hills above Argostoli, which are supposed to have belonged to the ancient *Kranii*. They at least prove the high antiquity of the city which they once surrounded. Ruins of

detached buildings are no more to be found. In vain, too, the traveller looks for those large ruins, farther down towards the town, of edifices which, in ancient times, may have served for naval store-houses or wharfs: all have vanished during the earthquakes.

A boat took us to Lixuri, which is now the second town in Cephalonia. It lies directly opposite Argostoli, on the west-side of the bay. The natural position of the town is very favourable to trade, and it has not that noxious marsh-air which renders Argostoli so unhealthy. But it has suffered more than the latter town from earthquakes. Lixuri has also some shipping; but the inhabitants have a very poor appearance. Here stood, probably, a city in the time of the Romans, the name of which has been lost to us. Forty years ago, in cleaning a well, some remains of antiquity were found here. First, a marble vase, the foot of which had been injured. It bore a Roman inscription, recording the death of a young man who had been a friend of Mark Anthony. The second discovery was more important. It was a female head, belonging to a statue which was assigned to the most flourishing ages of Grecian art. The abbate shewed me a sketch of it, which forcibly called to my memory a very similar one found last year in Capua, and, if I mistake not, it received a place in the collection of the Crown-Prince of Denmark. From the same well were also drawn several coins and bronze tablets with illegible Greek inscriptions. The whole of the discoveries were taken to Venice.

About one league from Lixuri, we found the ruins generally believed to be those of the ancient Palis or Palle. The surrounding district is still called Palichi, and the ruins Paleo-Kastro, or the old castle, a name very frequently met with throughout Greece. What may have been here twenty years ago is no longer to be seen: earthquakes and time have left nothing of any interest, not even the Cyclopiian walls, such as those we saw near Kranii. Here, about fifty years ago, a Greek inscription on Parian marble was dug up, of which I have already spoken, and which proves the republican constitution of Palle. The people and senate decreed to the high-priestess, Flaviana Eutyches, daughter of Pithodoros Glaukos, and the wife of Bion Aristomantides, the honour of a statue, which she deserved by her virtuous life and manners.

ΦΔΑΒΙΑΝΑ ΕΥΤΥΧΗΝ ΠΙΘΟΛΑΡΟΥ
ΓΛΑΥΚΟΥ ΓΥΝΑΙΚΑ ΒΙΩΝΟΣ
ΑΡΙΣΤΟΜΑΝΤΙΑΟΣ ΑΡΧΙΕΡΑΣ
ΑΜΗΝΗΝΤΗΣ ΣΕΒΑΣΤΗΣ
Η ΒΟΥΛΗ ΚΑΙ Ο ΛΗΜΟΣ ΠΑΛΕΙΩΝ
ΕΥΓΕΝΕΑΣ ΕΙΝΕΚΕΝ ΚΑΙ ΤΗΣ
ΠΕΡΙ ΤΟΝ ΒΙΟΝ ΣΟΦΡΟΣΥΝΗΣ
ΨΗΦΙΣΜΑΤΗ ΒΟΥΛΗΣ.

This interesting inscription was likewise carried to Venice. Since that time no searches have been made either in this place or at Lixuri; nor is any thing now doing in that way. We returned with our boat to Argostoli, from whence we rode to Kasamaita on asses.

Here we were received with kind hospitality at the country-seat of a friend. The elegance, comfort, and arrangement of the interior of this seat, recalled to my recollections the country-seats of France and Germany; but the kindness of the owner and his family I have not found equalled any where. Here, in this spot, apparently sequestered from the busy world, we found, upon a small table, Byron's works, De Pradt's Colonies, and a fine edition of Dante.

As I was assured by the abbate that nothing could be found on the Monte Nero of the ancient Cephalaria and the temple of Jupiter Enius, we crossed the steep mountain towards Same, which we reached in three hours, under a burning sun. The whole road lay over barren hills, where only here and there a few green myrtle or olive-trees are seen. On the summit we found an enchanting prospect over the island and the neighbouring isles, Zante, Thiaki, Paxu, Zanta Maura, and in the back-ground Corfu. Our unobstructed sight now carried us even to the Echenadian islands, and to the continent of Ætolia and Acarnania. An hour before arriving at Same, we entered a smiling and very fertile plain. Large trees, seldom met with in the Ionian islands, are seen here, and a view upon the isle of Ithaca contributes to the beauty of the whole. Ithaca is much more picturesque on its southern than on its western side, towards the channel Viscardo.

Same lies on a hill, and its declivity towards the east is in fact upon a small peninsula projecting into the sea. Its former glory, and its glorious struggle under Roman tyranny are universally known. All the traces of this city the Romans could however not destroy. Its former circumference, particularly on the declivity of the hill, is still pointed out by walls, which are partly of Cyclopiian architecture, and partly constructed with enormous pieces of granite, regularly cut, without any cement or brases, to resist the ravages of both earthquakes and time. On one side of the hills near the Cyclopiian wall stood the Acropolis. Farther down towards the shore, where the air is very unhealthy, we saw the ancient tombs, which are not formed like the Roman columbariæ, nor like the Greek tombs at Pestum and Nola, but consist of recesses cut in the rock for the reception of the dead, in which they resemble the catacombs of Naples.

Fifty years ago remains of antiquity were found here, which shewed the high degree of perfection to which the arts had arrived in Same; particularly vases of bronze, marble, and burn

clay; all which were sent to Venice. It is affirmed that many of these vases still emitted a strong scent when they were dug out from the ground. The Egyptians, as well as the nations of Palestine, embalmed their dead. The Greeks, who were fond of imitating all Egyptian practices, nevertheless could not adopt the embalming, as they would have had a very high price to pay for the spices to the Phœnicians. They, therefore, had recourse to the expedient of placing in the urns of their dead small phials of perfumes. The other vases found here resembled those of Crete, which, according to Pliny, were much in request among the Greeks.

Since the arrival of the English many objects of antiquity have been found in the tombs. Unfortunately, however, they were of silver, gold, or bronze, such as idols, cups, bracelets, necklaces, rings, small vases, &c. I say, unfortunately, because owing to their mercantile value, they have been lost to the world. I do not say it inconsiderately, but what I advance has been unanimously corroborated by respectable Englishmen and Cephalonians. These objects were scattered among the English civil and military officers in the Ionian islands, and were for the most part melted down for the purpose of forming into the shapes of tea-pots, spoons, knives and forks, &c. Nothing of all that has been found, is to be met with in the Ionian islands, nothing was carried to London to the British Museum, nor any where else. I shall, however, when speaking of Ithaca have an opportunity of recurring to this subject.

The present Same is only a small village, but its harbour is accessible to large ships, being protected by the Cape Alexander. Here also I saw an interesting convent, being a monastery and fortress at the same time. Adjoining it stands a square tower, which communicates with the convent by means of a drawbridge. On the top of the tower is a terrace, with embrasures for cannon. Four small pieces with other arms and ammunition used to be kept here; and thither the monks retreated on the landing of pirates at Same. The road to the convent is very steep, but the whole forms a very picturesque group.

Of the cities of Prona and Nesos, whose station is rather uncertain, as no ruins are found in the spots pointed out as such, I saw nothing; nor did I see the fortress of Axo or Asso. I was compelled to hurry from the bay of St. Steffano, whence my boat was to take me on-board in the evening.

With a small parcel tied up in a handkerchief, which was not likely to entice any robbers, I proceeded from Same in a S. E. direction towards the appointed bay. I had to cross some rugged hills, where I arrived on an eminence from which I had

again a beautiful view of the channel and Ithaca. The bay also, with its ruined houses, lay beneath me. I arrived in time; but the coast-keepers would not allow our boat to land to receive me, supposing it to be a Greek boat, coming under the Ionian flag to Cephalaria, for the purpose of propagating Greek principles, and at the same time to carry on a contraband trade. But by dint of a hand-full of oboli the strict guardians were silenced, and the boat permitted to enter the bay.

This sequestered spot possesses many picturesque charms. Passing by the ruins of two houses, destroyed by earthquakes, I arrived at a rocky cave of bold masses, formed by the sea. To the right, before descending into it, lies a ruined chapel, from the early ages of christianity. The guards said it was the chapel of St. Cecilia. An antique painting of the hemisphere, on the ceiling, shews, in rude groups and forms, the whole of the christian hierarchy. A great part of it is destroyed, but the principal objects may still be traced. This painting seems to be of the fifth or sixth century. Over the cave rises a hill closely covered by a shrubbery of myrtles. Here again is a beautiful prospect of Ithaca.

The evening gave us a high treat. The master of the boat had brought a goat from Argostoli, which was put on the spit and roasted by a clear fire. Under the bright starry heaven I lay by the side of the fire, in the company of our five mariners and the two guards, who would not lose sight of us, and who probably, for the sake of the goat, became attached to us. They even pointed out to us some neighbouring springs close by the sea-shore under the sand, such as I had seen in Zante. Two sailors, one of the guards, and I, went for the water, and brought a sufficiency for the evening and the next day. On that side too stood some oleanders in beautiful bloom, between bold groups of rock and colossal aloes. Thousands of aromatic plants exhaled their perfumes, which for a native of the north offers the sweetest enjoyment; whilst the inhabitants of these climates scarcely notice them. Towards midnight we parted from our guards, rowing from the coast in a dead calm.

Passing by the bay of Alexandria, at the southernmost extremity of which lies Same, we entered into the channel Viscardo or Cephalaria, the breadth of which in some places is not above an Italian mile. Both the islands only display here rude chains of mountains, almost without any cultivation, particularly that of Ithaca. Trees are not to be met with only here and there, whilst the high shelving rocks are merely adorned with a few wretched shrubs.

A favourable breeze having sprang up, we had advanced about fifteen miles, when a thunder-storm began to threaten us.

The master, not wishing to expose himself with his small vessel to its effects in this dangerous channel, (where with their short cables and small anchors they reached no ground,) quickly entered the bay Viscardo, situated near the cape of the same name. Thus we were sheltered against a very violent gale, by which, even in the bay, our vessel was very much tossed about. In the terrible currents of the channel it would have been inevitably lost, as it would have been thrown against the rocks of Ithaca. During the night we were disturbed by the shrill noise of the cicada on deck, a noise which annoyed me in all the Ionian islands, and in the Morea. I must, however, contradict the opinion that the night air on the Mediterranean sea is injurious to health. During my excursions from Naples to Messina, from Agrigentum to Syracuse, from Messina to Zante, thence through the Ionian islands, and ultimately from Corfu to Venice, I almost invariably slept upon deck, without experiencing any bad effects from it. I even cured many of sea-sickness by making them exchange at night the confined air of the cabin for the open air of the deck. Can there be any thing more beautiful than the nights in the southern climates? The following day it blew a brisk gale from the N. W., which prevented us from leaving our harbour. Taking advantage of this delay, I made an excursion on the beautiful hills, which in this spot were tolerably green; but the time was too short for a trip on the west side, where Nesos is said to have once stood. At the back of the bay Viscardo I saw the sacred ruins of a Roman bath. On the north-side of the bay rises a hill, strewed over with large stones. On the top are the ruins of the castle Viscardo, destroyed by earthquakes. This is the famous Cape Viscardo, which in the wars on the Adriatic made so great a figure. The view from these ruins is one of the most interesting in the world. On the other side of the channel lies Ithaca; and the roaring of the sea, breaking against its rocky shores, sounds like distant thunder in the ear. Quite to the left is Leukas, or Santa Maura, and on its extremity the Leucadian rock. The view of the bay, surrounded by its beautiful hills, is also very pleasing. On the south-west side lies a small church surrounded with cypress-trees; higher up is a small village, delightfully picturesque; to the west a hill, covered by olives and myrtle-trees.

The island of Cephalonia is the largest of the Ionian islands. Its length is about fifty-two and its breadth thirty-one miles. The number of its inhabitants is estimated at from sixty to sixty-two thousand.—It has three towns: Argostoli, Lixuri, and the fortress of Axo, and about one hundred and twenty-five villages, for the most part poor and wretched. A great part of the island is rugged and overspread with barren rocks. The Monte

Nero was once thickly covered with wood, whence it was also called *Silva Nero*; but the trees have all disappeared, being cut down for fuel by the natives during the supineness of the Venetian government. A great part of the island might be cultivated, if the natives were willing and industrious. Its rocky and mountainous soil, covered with luxuriant herbage, seems to be particularly fitted for the breed of sheep; but no attempts have yet been made to introduce them, and there are no sheep in the island. This is the only kind of pastures. The corn grown by the natives only supplies them for four or five months of the year; the rest, together with the oxen and sheep for consumption, must be imported from the Morea. There are only herds of goats in Cephalonia. The island, however, produces nearly seven millions of pounds of currants; which, together with the large quantities of oil, are their chief produce, and the branch of commerce with which they cover the expences incurred for the importation of the necessaries of life. They also raise cotton and silk, which are better than those of the Morea; but in small quantities. The wine grown on the island only suffices for the home consumption, and in quality it is inferior to that of Zante. About sixty years ago, an adventurer tried to introduce the cultivation of indigo and sugar: the introduction of Spanish sheep would have answered better. Horticulture is only practised by those who unite wealth with the knowledge of other countries. Much has been done by the English for its extent; but the mass of the people have as yet no idea of it. They grow, however, some very good melons, which are preferred to those of Malta. The island possesses an abundance of medical herbs, many of which are remarkable for their properties. What an early traveller says respecting the plants which form an absolute remedy against the gout and palsy, I have found confirmed. It is remarkable that both these diseases are so prevalent on an island in the same latitude as Calabria; whilst at Naples, which is two degrees farther north, they are unknown. A plant was also mentioned to me as growing here, which, as I was told, covers the enamel of the teeth with an indistructible bright gold colour, and another, which seems to impart to gold a silver tinge.

The chase is unimportant on the island. Moor-fowls, and birds of passage, are only seen in some places. The fishery might be more considerable, if the inhabitants would exert themselves. The roads, in the interior of the island, are rough and rocky, and only passable on foot, or with animals accustomed to them.

On the summit of Monte Nero manna used to be found upon the leaves of the trees, which are now cut down. Human bones

are still dug up there in large quantities. This circumstance seems to confirm the tradition that the inhabitants used to seek refuge upon this mountain, whenever the Turks or Moors landed on the island. When the Turks became masters of the island, thousands of the inhabitants are said to have been starved to death on this mountain. The earthquakes are here as frequent as in Zante; and there seems not only to be one connecting train for both, from S. to N., but Cephalonia seems also to have its distinct volcanic laboratory. Besides its own earthquakes of 1736, 1743, and 1752, from which Zante was exempt, Cephalonia was also violently shaken by those which desolated the latter island. That of 1820-21 was very dreadful in its effects. The water in all the wells on the island has a sulphurous smell. The climate is but moderately hot, considering the latitude of the country. Rapid and dangerous transitions from oppressive heat to great coldness are not rare. Perhaps they are the cause of the frequency of the gout and palsy. In summer it hardly ever rains, more than in the south of Italy. In winter snow falls only on the Monte Nero, but thunder-storms are both frequent and violent.

What I have said above concerning the respectable inhabitants of Argostoli, may also be applied to those of the same class in the interior of Cephalonia. Every where I met with a kind reception and hospitable politeness.

The Cephaloniots, upon the whole, are the most acute and dextrous among all the Ionian islanders, and are the most amiable in their manners. Persevering in the execution of any plan upon which they have once fixed, they exert all their physical and intellectual strength in it: nothing deters, nothing stops them. But it cannot be truly said, that for the attainment of their object they consider every means equally just; but they have the dangerous talent of assuming all forms and shapes. The English also say that the Cephaloniots are fond of intrigue and revenge; but the source of this opinion is to be suspected. The superior order of natives love and cherish the sciences. This island, as well as Corfu, gave the Republic of Venice several distinguished statesmen and heroes.

Hospitality is really a national virtue with these islanders. I have met it in the interior, even from the poorest; and they offer a draught of water and their coarse bread with the greatest pleasure. Strangers are much respected among them. It is pleasing to see, however, the meanest of the inhabitants try to enlarge their knowledge by a strong spirit of enquiry. This is not common among the Greeks, who proudly despise every thing that is foreign. Besides this, the inhabitants, who, as I have

said before, are strangers to oriental customs, are fond of boisterous mirth and pleasure, a peculiarity which is particularly noticed among the higher classes.

If I am not misled by appearances, the Cephalonians take less interest in the present affairs of Greece than all the Ionians. This may be seen from the conduct they have hitherto observed, and it is also confirmed by the English. Their judgment in these affairs had always been calm and steady. Yet I have often heard that the Cephalonians also would gladly join the Greeks, if they once saw a prospect of success.

The internal security of the country forms a great contrast with the insecurity which is said to prevail in Zante. Yet, it is said, that in former times it was different here, in this respect, although they had a *capitan del bosco*, whose office it was to keep the forests of Monte Nero free from robbers. With these forests, also, the robbers have disappeared. Under the efficient police, kept up by the English on the island, they would not be suffered to remain long.

LETTER XI.

Ithaca, August.

ON the third morning after our entering the bay Viscardo, the wind having again abated, we left it, and entered the same forenoon the harbour of Thiaki or Vatkî. I had not much time left to examine this island, as we were to sail this same evening for Santa Maura. It was, therefore, fortunate for me that all the objects of antiquity and interest on the island were brought together in a narrow compass. An old Albanian, who had long lived in Ithaca, and who generally accompanies the English of Corfu upon their excursions to the island, acted as my guide. He told me that it required nothing but to go to the top of the hill, to see there, as well as on the road thither, ever thing of note contained in Ithaca. We first went to the objects nearest Thiaki or Vatkî to the S. E., to the well-known rock Korax, to the fountain Arethusa, and close by this to a spot where the brave Eumæus is said to have resided. Within an hour we arrived at the top of the hill, which traverses all Ithaca, keeping it together like a bandage. At the top of the hill, near Vatkî, are the celebrated walls said to be the remains of Ulysses' castle. The architecture of these walls, (for nothing else is left,) is Cyclopian, and their colossal character, at all events, bespeaks a high antiquity. Their proportions are remarkable, being about twelve feet high and six feet broad,

and of considerable length. They must once have formed part of a very large edifice.

At half-an-hour's journey from these walls we came to the ancient Greek tombs, the simplicity of which would not lead any one to suspect that such precious articles were found in them as actually have been there discovered. Ten years ago some English travellers caused excavations to be made here, for which they were rewarded by the discovery of a considerable quantity of coins, gold, silver, and bronze utensils, &c. Colonel De Bosset collected coins in Ithaca which had not been known before, but whether he has published any thing concerning them I know not. Lately some other valuable articles were dug out here; but all this is done in private by British officers. Many of the articles lately found are said to have been sold to the British Museum; but the most valuable objects have disappeared, and among these, also, a crown. This I have heard from many well-informed English gentlemen, but I was particularly told by Count R. a well-informed man, who, during the first years of the English administration had been a member of the senate, and has lived above twenty years in the Ionian islands, that all objects of value found since the introduction of the English administrations in Cephalonia and Ithaca, had been divided among the civil officers of that nation, who had them melted down for domestic use; but that the beautiful crown which, according to the description given of it, seems to have had the shape of the Lombard crown of Monza, had been broken, and the pieces divided among several British officers; that he himself had held some of the pieces in his hand, and, therefore, could vouch for the truth of the statement.

But no one can be astonished at this profanation of Greek antiquities by the English, who has seen what class of men the British government think proper to send out for the government and administration of the Ionian republic!

The breaking and dividing of that crown will not surprise the English, if once the spirit is understood which induced Lord Elgin to plunder the Parthenon, and which tempted some others to commit the Vandalism of carrying off, by a military force, the Phigalian frios from the Temple of *Bafae*, of which it had formed a part. "We destroy all that others call most glorious, we destroy it, if we can but obtain a piece of it, for we are Britons, and despise all the rest, even the public opinion of the whole world, except that of Old England!" This is every where the guiding principle which explains all.

In the vicinity of Vathi the ruins of a Roman edifice are shewn, which are commonly described under the name of

Homer's school. I have not been able to distinguish whether it had been a temple or a private building. I saw no other antiquities in Ithaca; and my cicerone assured me faithfully that there was nothing else left.

The island (the inhabitants of which, according to some, amount to 6000, and to others not to above three or 4,000) consists almost entirely of rude, bare mountains, and is on all sides, where it has no harbours, surrounded by steep rocks and projecting cliffs. The whole of the western coast, towards the channel of Viscardo, shews not the least trace of cultivation, or human habitations, except two wind-mills on the top of the northern mountain which Strabo calls Neius. It also seems impossible to force cultivation upon these rocks. Nevertheless, the small quantity of corn grown here not only suffices for the consumption of the whole year, but affords some for exportation to Cephalonia and Zante, where it fetches better prices than the corn of the Morea.

The quantity of currants grown here amounts to about four millions of pounds per annum. These, together with some oil, and some good wine, form the object of their export trade; and with which they purchase their cattle from the Morea, since they have none in their island.

Game is insignificant; their fishing is more productive. They also have excellent poultry, particularly some large turkies, which would have pleased the ever-feasting lovers of Penelope, in times of yore. But they grow very little fruit and few vegetables on their rocks. The earthquakes are less frequent here, as the subterraneous laboratories which run under Zante and Cephalonia, do not seem to extend to this island. The number of villages is about five.

The island has a most excellent harbour, from which every breath of air is excluded. The harbour of Thiaki is entirely enclosed by mountains, which forms a very interesting sight. But there are several more places round the coast which might be used as harbours. The natives are addicted to trade and navigation, perhaps more even than those of Cephalonia; but their mental capacities are not so great. In other respects they resemble the Ionians in character, manners, customs, and dress.

LETTER XII.

Santa Maura, August.

WE left Ithaca in the evening. It was with some difficulty I persuaded the captain to promise that he would put me on-shore near the cape Ducato, in a bay below Dragano, if we should

be allowed, under the condition that I should join him at Santa Maura in the evening. Before reaching this bay, in the south-east of the island, we reached a spot, where the sea had the appearance of an extensive lake, as we saw ourselves completely encompassed by land, except near Cape Ducato in the south, where a small opening remained perceptible. Thus the coasts of the three islands of Cephalonia, Thiaki, and Santa Maura, appeared united. When arrived in the bay, some guards opposed our landing; because, only a few days before, an Epirot bark was landed there with revolutionary letters and contraband goods. On producing my introductory letters from Cephalonia to the resident at Santa Maura, Major Temple, they immediately withdrew their opposition. As I only intended to go to the top of the Cape Ducato, which is the ancient Cape Leucas, one of the guards gave me his two stout lads, who happened to be near, to accompany me. The rock from which the Leucadian leap used to be taken, is on the west side of the cape, and about 140 feet high. However, I do not wish to guarantee this height, as I merely measured it by the eye, which is frequently deceptive.

I heard much in Cephalonia about a Greek inscription which was said to be cut in the rock, about ten or eleven feet under the surface. This matter was of too great interest not to spend a few of my oboli upon it. I therefore sent for a strong rope from Dragano, which I fastened round my waist and shoulders. Two men who brought it undertook with the two lads to hold the rope, and to let it slip gently till I reached within ten or eleven feet below the top, which I first measured off. Thus I swung myself over the edge, and gradually descended to the required depth, without perceiving a trace of any inscription, either before me or on the right or left. It created a singular sensation thus to hang by a rope high above the sea; while the raging surf already seemed to welcome me with its spray, which it dashed upwards. However, after a few minutes, my people again pulled me up, and I was safe.

They informed me that several strangers before me had undertaken the investigation of the supposed inscription without any better success; and the above-mentioned Count R. told me in Venice, that he himself had made the attempt without discovering any vestige of an inscription. This inscription, therefore, has either never existed, or it has fallen down into the sea with the rocks; or, perhaps, it is still lower than ten or eleven feet from the top. The traces, too, of the once-famed temple of Apollo on this promontory are very slight and difficult to discern. A heap of old rubbish was pointed out to me as the ruins of the temple; but they seem to me rather to have belonged to a tower than to a large temple. There is, however, an old shaft of a

pillar among them, which is the only criterion to lead any one to consider these as the ruins of a temple.

Of the fabulous story of the discovery of an unknown poem of Sappho to Phaon, in a Greek tomb near the ruins of the temple, by a M. Ossur, of St. Petersburg ; I suppose, nothing farther has been heard since its first promulgation. After Sappho, the leap into the sea from this rock was often tried as a remedy. In an after period, this sacred spot was degraded by criminals condemned to death, being thrown from the rock into the sea. If they effected the leap without being killed, their lives were granted to them.

In the bay where I landed lay a small bark, which was immediately about to sail for Santa Maura. I preferred this conveyance to a journey over-land, which would have been without interest, besides the risk of being too late for the evening, as I should have lost two hours of my day's journey, owing to the excessive heat on this island, during the month of August.

LETTER XIII.

Santa Maura, August.

WE passed with our little boat between Meganisi and the continent, making our way among a great number of small islands, banks, and rocks, which are very dangerous to large vessels ; and happily entered the harbour of Santa Maura. The town is also called Amaxichi, or Aja-Maura, and lies on the north-east side of the island. It has been the capital of the island ever since the fortress was abandoned by government. But it is still small and insignificant, ill-built and dirty ; although the English have effected some improvements by the building of new houses, the paving of one street, and a good police. The town contains but one principal street, which was only paved in the latter times of the Venetian government. There is also St. Mark's square here, which contains two churches, the Latin and the Greek. In the centre of it stands a column which had been found in the ruins of Nicopolis. Owing to the earthquakes the houses are but one story high, with the exception of a few, and among these, the houses built by the English have two stories. Many of the older ones are surrounded by galleries, which are covered with canvass, and are very pleasant during the heat of the summer. They are without any taste or architectural beauty. The town has fourteen Greek churches, the best of which is devoted to St. Mina.

The neighbourhood is very pleasant. The prospect from the hills over the town, which seems to be situated in the midst of a garden of orange, lemon, almond, and olive-trees, is delicious ;

it also includes part of the adjoining continent, and some of the islands.

About five months ago, the pressure of taxation, together with the political events in Greece, caused so violent an insurrection in Santa Maura, that the English troops on the island were repulsed, and the natives could not be subdued till after the arrival of a reinforcement of men and artillery from Corfu. Two priests were taken and executed on this occasion. Their bodies are still seen dangling in the wind, a spectacle hardly calculated to add to the beauty of the town.

The present British resident in Santa Maura is Major Temple, who has only been here these seven or eight weeks. His predecessor, Colonel Ross, will always be remembered in the island with gratitude for his humanity of disposition and kindness to strangers.

Santa Maura contains about 6,500 inhabitants, almost all Greeks. The fortress, built in the thirteenth century, by a prince of the Spanish family, Tocchi, was almost entirely demolished in 1715; but afterwards restored by the Venetians, and lately improved by the English. Its situation is on the neck of land to the north of Santa Maura, near the lagoons or shallows which separate the island from the continent; it is almost entirely surrounded by water, and difficult of access.

This sand-bank is so shallow that the natives often wade across it. It would be a great benefit for the trade and navigation of Santa Maura, if this bank was again removed, as it was formerly done, by the republic of Corinth; for which, too, the inhabitants re-applied to the government of Venice. But the Venetian republic of that time was not that of Corinth.

The well-known aqueduct, constructed by the Turks under the famous Bajazet, leads across the lagoons which separate the fortress from the town of Santa Maura. It has been much injured by the earthquakes. The water-channel running between the top of the arches and the pavement of the aqueduct, is almost destroyed. The breadth of the aqueduct, exclusively of the side-walls, is three feet. It is now only used as a path for foot-passengers, which is, however, not without danger, as it frequently breaks under them, and the unfortunate people are precipitated into the marsh underneath, from which it is difficult to escape. The aqueduct is supported by 370 arches, so closely built together, that they will not admit the smallest boat to go through them. The people of Santa Maura have an old tradition of this aqueduct. They say that Bajazet having given 100,000 zecchins to the architect for the raising of the structure, the latter saved 30,000, and returned them to the sultan. But the latter, enraged by his not having employed the whole sum

as had been ordered, had his head struck off. There is great probability in this tradition, as it entirely bears the character of Bajazet's barbarous age. To the south of Santa Maura are the salt-pits, so important to the island.

The ancient city of Leukas lay, probably, south of the present town. At least, it is there where ruins of Cyclopiian walls are still seen, and which, I think, may best be compared with those of Fondi, on the borders of Naples; and which are, unquestionably, of Greek origin. I have not been able to learn whether any antiquities have been found here. The population of the whole island amounts to about 16,000; which are distributed over one town and thirty-two villages. This small island, nevertheless, contains six male monasteries; of which, those of St. John the Baptist and of St. George are the wealthiest.

Santa Maura, like Cephalonia and Thiaki, is covered with rude and barren mountains, of which the highest are situated towards the centre of the island. They might, however, be improved were it not for want of hands and industry. It has but one very fertile and agreeable plain, in which the town is situated, and one small valley.

Santa Maura may rather be called a peninsula than an island, being, in fact, connected with the continent by the sand-bank, which begins near the gulf of Arto, and extends for an hour and a half as far as the town of Santa Maura; about which the water, in its deepest parts, is but six feet. The channel between the continent and the island is only navigable for boats. Vessels of any burthen are compelled to keep on the west side of the island, where they meet with a small harbour.

The navigation near this island, especially near cape Ducato, or Leucate, has always been considered dangerous; and several ships are annually wrecked there through the powerful currents. The island, like the other Ionian isles, has no river of any importance, but it has more good springs of fresh water.

In a small valley surrounded by mountains, in the vicinity of the town, the waters, towards the middle of October, accumulate, and form a lake of about an hour's journey in circumference. In the month of May the water runs off, and then the fertilized ground bears corn, fruits, and vegetables in abundance. But the produce goes entirely to the monks of the neighbouring convent.

Notwithstanding its barren mountains, the island furnishes more wood than the neighbouring isles; and the natives are relieved from the necessity of drawing their fuel from the continent. Near Santa Maura I was agreeably surprised by the sight of some fine oaks. Almond and olive-trees are frequent, and they often grow to a prodigious size.

This plain, as I have already observed, is very fertile; there

the orange and lemon-tree are ranged by the side of common fruit-trees; under their shade grow corn, wine, and flax, in abundance; and those gigantic almond and olive-trees overshadow the whole, which recalls to the mind the richness of Campania and Sicily. Currants are not much cultivated here; but the soil and a more northerly climate being against them. Their wines too, are not distinguished for their qualities, nor are any produced for exportation.

The vegetables, however, are peculiarly large and fine; particularly the artichokes; there being many fine gardens about the town. Cattle are much wanting, as in the other islands, and are imported from the continent. Besides the mules requisite for the cultivation of the soil or the carriage of goods, only a few wretched flocks of goats and sheep are seen on the island. The mountains are rich in game; the chase, however, is very little followed. The fisheries near the coast are exceedingly productive; there being an abundance of the most excellent soal, and other fish.

Of metals there seem to be none: but the salt-pits are very productive. Salt also forms the principal article of trade of the island; being exported in large quantities to all parts of Italy, and even to Sweden.

The shipping of the island has been a little increased since the administration of the island fell to the English; and the natives do not now so frequently entrust their cargoes to foreigners, especially the Greeks of Pevesa, as they used to do.

The climate is very mild in autumn and winter, which both resemble a mild spring; but in spring and summer the island suffers from excessive heat, as I can witness from my own experience, although this summer was not reckoned among the hottest.

In the vicinity of the lagoons and marshes, and, consequently, in all those parts of the island nearest the continent, the air is very unhealthy: near the town it is most unhealthy. The easterly winds still increase their injurious effects, as they bring pestilential vapours with them from the gulf of Arta, and create frequent fevers. In summer, north and west winds are most prevalent; in winter, south and east.

Santa Maura likewise suffers much from earthquakes. Scarcely a month passes without some commotion of the earth more or less strong. The subterraneous connection, however, seems not to extend to the south towards Cephalonia, Thiaki, and Zante, but more to the west; for the dreadful commotions which devastated those islands, were less felt here than that which, in 1783, desolated Calabria and Messina. But, moreover, Santa Maura has its own laboratory of earthquakes.

The national character of the natives essentially differs from that of the neighbouring islands, which may be occasioned by their proximity to the continent, and their frequent intercourse with its inhabitants. In general, it is true, the St. Mauriot is gentle, peaceable, and credulous, but if long teased he becomes furious. This was proved in the last insurrection in March.

There is much of the manners of the Turks and Moreats among them, the same as in Zante; with the exception that the women, who, in that island are much restrained, live here in perfect freedom. This circumstance is the more pleasing, as they are handsomer than the females of any other of the Ionian islands. Their dress, in the variety of its embroideries, bears the character of the east; but it is tasteful, and made to fit their handsome shapes. The dresses of the males are also distinguished from those of the other Ionians, by a greater display and more embroidery.

LETTER XIV.

Corfu, August.

OUR captain having arranged his mercantile affairs, and wind and weather being favourable, we weighed our small anchor towards midnight, and steered towards the south, through that intricacy of sand-banks and clusters of islands round the cape Ducato, the white rocks of which now magically shone in the pale light of the moon.

Near the rock of Sessola, so dangerous to seamen, we met with a perfect calm; and the current from the north was so powerful, that, in spite of all our exertions with our oars, we could not advance against it. Already our captain prepared himself to enter a small harbour of Santa Maura, when a brisk scirocco sprang up, and forced the current to change its direction. This brought us so quickly forward that we soon left Santa Maura far behind us.

With a little wind, in a southern summer, it is very pleasant to sail in such a bark, under so bright a sky, especially in a sea where you may, every moment, land on some interesting spot. Thus I hope one day to circumnavigate the coasts of Calabria, Apulia, and Sicily, with which, as yet, we are so little acquainted. Besides, the life which I led in my Ionian bark, corresponded with the voyage, void of all enjoyments and comforts, which are neither known nor sought for in the south of Italy.

In the morning, when the sun rose, his early rays gilding the distant mountain-tops, the master, with his people, lifted up their eyes to him in prayer. We breakfasted on salt-fish, a

little ewe-cheese from Perigo, and wine, accompanied by onions and ship's biscuits. At noon, when the sun darted his burning rays down upon our heads, the dinner was very welcome. Whenever the position of the sails permitted, a mat or sail was spread horizontally, in order to afford us a shelter. Next came some salt-meat, or, at times, fresh, having been bought in the last harbour, when it had not been too dear there. Again, salt-fish, onions, and a refreshing water-melon. The wine was served up in a large jug, which went round from mouth to mouth. We then slept for an hour and a half. If the wind was not favourable, the sails, during this time, were taken in, and the bark went backwards with the current. At evening, when the sun set, spreading its rich tints over the earth, the mariners again sent their prayers after him, and a supper was taken resembling the breakfast.

Our men performed their labour, which was often very hard when they had to pull against the current, even during the greatest heat, singing, and with the most perfect good-humour. I had learnt one of their favourite Greek songs, and when, during the evening and at night, I plied my oar, I sung it with them, a circumstance which gave them much pleasure. Indeed, they were all very fond of me, and did whatever they could to please me; so easy it is to gain the affection of simple people. They also placed great confidence in me, as at the first jug of wine I had drank to the success of the Greek cause.

From sun-set till midnight we slept soundly upon deck, with the exception of the man at the helm, being sufficiently tired by the labour of the day. The bare boards formed our bed, a thick boat-cloak our covering, and some small barrel, an oar, a buoy, &c. served for a pillow. After midnight the voyage was continued, either sailing or rowing. The people sung and seemed perfectly happy.

I took my share in all their inconveniences and pleasures, and was more and more firmly convinced, that the greatest simplicity in living, together with bodily labour, imparts the most delightful elasticity to our existence, by imparting strength and physical energy to our bodies. Nay, I may say more, such a manner of living also cures various bodily affliction. In the summer of 1820, in sailing from Naples to Leghorn, I had hurt my chest in assisting the men in casting anchor; the effects of which, together with the pain in my left arm, caused by the blow I had received from the robbers in the Morea, I had still felt on leaving Zante. But I lost both through my plain and active life on-board the small vessel, my journeys in the heat of the day, and through frequent bathing in the sea, which I often

did three or four times a-day ; being almost the only refreshment to be procured in a southern climate.

Misled by false statements of travellers, the thing I dreaded most in the south was the scirocco. But neither in Italy, Naples, Sicily, nor the Ionian islands, did I feel it differently from any other southerly wind. The natives of those countries scarcely perceive it, and there are but few foreigners that feel any heaviness or oppression from it. The scirocco should not be confounded with the solano, which blows with a burning and suffocating heat from the deserts of Lybia ; but it is of rare occurrence. I have only felt it once, and this was in the gulf of Naples.

Our favourable scirocco blew still ; it was night, and we had arrived opposite Anti-paxu. We were all asleep except old Dimetri, who, like Palinurus, sate by the helm. All at once the bark ran upon one of the many sand-banks between Anti-paxu and Paxu. We all instantly awoke : and a terrible noise ensued. Dimetri was accused of having been asleep, which might have been very possible. He, on the other hand, maintained that the bank must have been lately formed, since, during a twenty-five years navigation upon these seas, he had never known it. All our exertions with oars and poles proved ineffectual, although only half of the bark had got upon the bank. If a puff of wind had pushed it further, there would indeed have been no danger, but we should have been kept on the spot till another vessel had assisted ; which might perhaps not have been for some days. We therefore all jumped into the water, which only reached to mid-leg, and after long and repeated exertions, our *St. Magdalen*, (this was the name of the bark) was again set afloat. This was hailed by a general shout, and the wine jug at breakfast was, for the first time during our voyage, filled twice.

Anti-paxu is now more cultivated than it used to be. The Paxiots, who only come here for the purpose of cultivation and reaping, grow figs, oil, wine, and almonds on the island, which only contains three huts for the keepers.

We saw the small harbour of Paxu, with its rocky island in the middle of the entrance, but we did not land. We perceived on the island the few remains of the fort built by the Neapolitans when they were in possession of Corfu. A light-house is built here, the only one in the southern Ionian islands.

The small island of Paxu supports a very laborious race of people. The cultivation of the olive, which produces better oil than that of Corfu, and that of almonds, are the principal branches of industry of the island. It looks green and cultivated, which has a very pleasing effect upon the eye, on arriving from

the naked rocks of the more southern islands. The coast of Paxu also offers great inducement for fishing. No poisonous plant, no venomous reptile, is found on Paxu; nay, the sailors told me very seriously that the mere sight of Paxu relieved the St. Mauriot from many little grievances.

It is more than probable that Paxu was formerly connected on the north with Corfu, from which it was torn by an earthquake. The nature and form of the rocks of the cape Blanco in Corfu and those of the northern point of Paxu, together with the similarity of soil, prove this former connection. Besides, Homer and Virgil, who in general are so minute in their description of the Ionian sea, also are silent about Paxu.

We saw Parga lying on its pointed rocks, and saw the flash and smoke of its cannon. The town was just attacked by a troop of Epirots, under Perevos; but, as we subsequently learnt at Corfu, unfortunately without success. Passing by Cape Blanco, we soon arrived in the channel of Corfu.

The situation of the city of Corfu, with its old forts, jutting out into the sea upon the lofty rocks, with the mountains behind them, and the Mount St. Pantaleon in the vicinity, presents a very picturesque appearance.

Passing along the beautiful bay, south of the old fortress, where many country-seats are scattered among the green hills and between the dark shades of cypress-groves, we arrived in the road and harbour of Corfu. We passed under the stern of a British ship of the line towering majestically above us. They were just hoisting the flag, and the band on-board performed in their manner *Rossini's Cenerentola*.

LETTER XV.

Corfu, August.

THE island of Corfu is separated only by a narrow channel from the continent of Epirus, which in its widest parts is not above eight miles in width, and in the narrowest places its breadth is only two miles. The air of the island is considered salubrious. The number of its inhabitants, which has been constantly decreasing, is now scarcely sixty thousand, who are for the most part Greeks. The island must once have contained at least three hundred thousand people, if we consider what they effected during the time of their independence, and even subsequently under the Romans.

The climate is mild, but rather changeable, and not warm enough to impart the requisite sweetness to currants, which, only half a degree more to the south, come to perfect maturity.

But the vicinity of the high mountains of Epirus may have a great influence on the climate. The island has several small rivers. The largest however, named Mensogni, is scarcely wider than a large rivulet. Another, which is near the city of Corfu, bears merely the name of Potamo, i. e. the river. The island too sometimes suffers from earthquakes, which, however, are not so violent as in the other more southern islands. And although both sulphur and coal are found, it seems to have no volcanic laboratory of its own. Its mountains are likewise barren, yet of all the mountains of the larger Ionian islands, they seem to be most wooded. But all their wood for fuel and timber is imported from Dalmatia.

Oil is the chief produce of Corfu, and its cultivation might be increased, if the natives were more industrious. Nevertheless, they grow sufficiently for their home consumption, and also export enough to pay for all their imports. The wine grown in the island supplies the inhabitants for half the year only; for the remainder of the year they obtain it from Dalmatia. It is far from being of a good quality. Corn is only grown sufficient for four months of the year.

Horticulture is of little importance in Corfu, being checked by the want of running streams; yet the natives produce excellent winter melons, oranges, lemons, figs, and almonds. Between the mountains and hills which cover the greater part of the island, valleys and plains are found; yet they have not grass enough to keep large cattle on them. The inhabitants, therefore, have only herds of goats, and all their cattle for slaughter as well as their poultry is imported from the continent. Game is rather plentiful, and is now eagerly pursued by the English. The fisheries are also important. The harbour of the ancient city of Chrysopolis contains some excellent fish; coral is found near the capes Sidero and Blanco.

Salt forms a part of the exports of the island, which possesses several beds of coal; also some sulphur mines, and a spring of mineral water. It likewise produces a species of grey marble.

Whatever I saw of the interior of Corfu, I found to be well cultivated; and I was told that the same degree of cultivation also prevailed in the central parts of the island. The English, in this respect, have acted very beneficially, and by the building of country-seats and cottages, and the formation of gardens, parks, &c. they have given to the country a more inviting appearance than it probably had before.

The island is divided into four districts. The first is Leschimo, and lies in the east. It contains the site of the ancient city of Gardachi, at a distance of about a league from the coast, and which is now occupied by a small village, and the ruins of an

ancient fort. This district has about twenty villages, and from eleven to twelve thousand inhabitants.

The district of *Argiru*, in the west, is the most fertile. It is said to contain eight thousand inhabitants in fifteen villages. In this district lay the ancient city of *Argiru*, on a peninsula, the site of which is now occupied by a Greek convent. This city was destroyed by the Saracens, and upon its ruins *Alexis Comnenus* built a fort, which, in the year 1403, was unsuccessfully besieged by the Genoese.

The district of *Mezzo* is the most important. It contains the city of *Corfu*, with a population of about twenty-five thousand inhabitants. To the south of this city, are the spots pointed out as the former cities of *Chrisopolis*, and the famous gardens of *Alcinous*. The district of *Oros*, however, has but seven thousand inhabitants, living in twenty villages. Here lay the once famed city of *Kassiopeia*, with the splendid temple of *Jupiter Casius* in the site now occupied by *Rassopo*.

In the weddings and funeral ceremonies of the people, many customs of ancient Greece may be recognized. But they are nearly lost among immoral and ridiculous practices.

The English in *Corfu* give the natives of this island a very bad character. If their opinion concerning the Ionian islanders, and indeed the Greeks in general, were free from suspicion, we should be led to believe that nature and education had denied these people those good qualities for which the inhabitants of *St. Maura*, *Ithaca*, *Cephalonia*, and *Zante*, are more or less distinguished; and instead of them we should only find a combination of vices, which would place the *Corfiots* in the scale of morality below all the other Greeks.

It is possible, that many of the bad qualities for which the Greeks are so often reproached, such as indolence, cupidity, want of faith and gratitude, sycophancy, superstition, &c. may be more clearly traced among the *Corfiots*; much also may have been added by the vices of the Venetian administration, the effects of which may yet operate for many years. Nevertheless, it appears to me very severe and unjust, to deny them every opportunity for obtaining mental improvement honourable of principle and domestic industry.

As yet nothing having been done towards such improvement, the people live in darkness; and those, whose duty it would be to elevate and enlighten them in their sphere, are, some of them, uneducated and illiterate themselves, and others find it their advantage to keep them in ignorance.

When the British administration has established proper means for the instruction of the people, and the improvement of the

clergy; and if in this labour of restoration, after persevering for an age, the inhabitants shall not become wiser or better, then, and then only, will the British be justified in denying the Corfiots the opportunity of moral improvement.

It cannot be denied that the natives are variously connected with the armed Greeks of the continent,—that they participate in the wishes and hopes of those who are there contending for the sacred cause;—that they enthusiastically receive and propagate every account from that quarter, whether true or false, probable or absurd; and that they are connected with many plans entertained on the continent and the islands. I am not inclined, altogether, to approve of such conduct in their present circumstances. But does it prove their abjectness? does it prove the total enervation of the people? their total indolence in every moral effort? a people which, although sunk in vice and prejudice, has still a sense of its nationality: such a people is not lost, but is still capable of a superior cultivation and moral improvement.

Can it be considered a proof of the abjectness of the people, when they complain, and are indignant at the oppression of the English? And when they know and distinguish the measures which the British administration allow themselves, in order to make an Indian colony of an independent republic?

LETTER XVI.

Corfu, August.

CONSIDERING the ancient glory of Corfu, we expected to find many antiquities on the island. But this is not the fact; there are, on the contrary, less here than in any other of the smaller Ionian islands. In the city, near the Porta Reale, is a small octagonal Greek church, which was evidently formed from a rotunda, which seems to have been built in the latter times of the Romans. It still has the old columns, consisting of blue-and-white marble. About three miles from Corfu, near the salt-lake, to the west of the harbour, are shewn slight and almost invisible traces of aqueducts. They are supposed to have belonged to the gardens of Alcinous. These gardens, however, are placed by the antiquaries of Corfu in three different spots.

To the S. of Corfu, beyond the high mountain of St. Pantaleon, lies a lake full of fish. It is supposed to have been the harbour of Chrysopolis, the scite of which is pointed out on its western bank. But no traces are left of the glories of the Golden City, in the description of which both Xenophon and Thucy-

dides are at a loss for words. Of the chain alone, which closed the harbour, some remains were shewn to me. There are no traces of the flourishing cities of Kassiopeia, Argiru, and Gardochi.

I was informed that repeated excavations had been made under the old academy in the cities of Chrysopolis and Kasiopeia, upon which a treatise had been written and deposited in the library of St. Mark in Venice. Thus, this academy, consisting of private individuals, did more than the present wealthy administration, which seems studiously to avoid coming in contact with any thing connected with antiquity. When I mentioned to an Englishman of rank, at Corfu, the propriety of establishing an Ionian Museum in the capital, for the purpose of collecting in it all that had been found, and was belonging to the republic, he replied, "we have things of more importance to do here, and, after all, what end would it answer?"

An interesting treatise might be written on the causes of the almost total absence of all traces of the ancient temples and cities of Corfu. One of the chief causes, I suppose, to be the early introduction of Christianity in the island, carrying along with it that fury of destruction which had been every where so fatal to the works of antiquity. The frequent desolations of the island by the Goths, Vandals, Saracens, and Turks; and earthquakes may, probably, have acted as secondary causes.

At different times various Greek inscriptions have been accidentally found, which were deposited into the museum of Cavalier Nani, at Venice, who had once been *proveditore generale* of the republic in Corfu. None of these inscriptions mark the epoch of their origin. Yet it is very probable that they belong to the first ages of the republic of Corcyra. They express that the gods were honoured on the island, that the first authority of Corcyra was composed of four prytanei, that by a resolution of the assembled people, several worthy strangers were elected citizens of the republic, and that many other marks of distinction and privileges were conferred on them.

Some antiquities have been lately discovered, but they are of the later Roman period; for instance, a small statue of marble in the possession of Colonel Whitmore.

The coins of Corcyra, that have been found, generally bear a female head, a Jupiter Agrais, Neptune, Bacchus, Apollo, Hermes, or Hercules; the reverse generally represents symbols indicating the fertility and abundance of the island, its strength, naval power, or its great trade. For instance, a ship, an altar with fruit, a garland of ivy, a bull, a tripod, a trident, a horse, a cow suckling her calf, a grape, &c. All these symbols bear the inscription ΚΟΡΚΥΡΑΙΟΝ, or the abbreviation ΚΟΡΚΥ...ΚΟΡΚΥ. or only the letter Κ. The medals, coined in honour of men who

have rendered services to the state, generally bear their head crowned with laurel, with the galley on the reverse, and the inscription ΚΟΡ.ΚΥΡΙΑΩΝ. The medals of the Roman period always bear the head of the emperor, or the great lady, in honour of whom they were coined; and, on the reverse, one of those symbols, most frequently a seated figure of Jupiter.

LETTER XVII.

Corfu, August.

HOWEVER beautiful the works of nature are in Corfu, art displays very little that is pleasing to the eye. My reader will, therefore, forgive me, if I mention nothing concerning the large houses, there named palaces, and the churches of the fortress and town. The smallest town in Italy is better supplied in this respect, and it is surprising that the republic of Venice built her government-buildings with such architectural insignificance, having had such excellent modes of ancient and modern architecture, as well as many good architects. The edifices lately built by the English are only worthy of notice.

Near the harbour, behind the offices of the dogana (custom-house,) which, likewise, owe their origin to the English, is the new butcher's-hall and market. It is a colonade forming a regular square, with a small peristyle in the centre, combining, in admirable proportions, utility with beauty. But in the centre of the place, formed by the colonade, rises a small rotunda of equal columns, in two stories, supporting a dome. This clumsy piece of architecture only forms a well, and spoils the whole.

After traversing the wretchedly paved streets of the city, which leans against the side of a hill, you arrive, without having met with any building of note, on the spacious and beautiful place called the Esplanade. On the north-side of it, detached from all other houses, rises the palace, which is now building by the English government for the lord-high-commissioner. It is almost completed, only a little being wanted for the second-floor, which is to support a dome. This edifice, worthy of a ruling emperor, attracts for a moment, but, after a short examination, the faults of its architecture appear to a practiced eye. The principal building forms a regular square of two stories, which displays both symmetry and simplicity; but, unfortunately, the architect hit upon an idea of placing before this massy edifice a colonade, nearly of the shape of a horse-shoe, and formed of small Doric columns, which is concealed by the large building that seems to rest upon it. The architect, himself, seems to have felt the deformity of this construction,

and, therefore, placed at both ends of the colonade, where it diverges, in two bent arms, large triumphal arches, serving at the same time for gateways, to be ornamented with trophies and other emblems. These arches are much higher than the colonade; nay, in comparison to it, they seem colossal. They are intended as a medium between the principal building and the puny colonade; but, being too large for the latter, they form another architectural defect. The architect seems to have borne in mind the colonade of St. Peter at Rome. But how noble and grand is that work! and how well-proportioned to the church!

The internal division and construction of the building, however, is the most perfect, in its kind, I ever saw. The architectural art has laboured here with the most admirable industry. The stones are so closely united, that their joints can scarcely be seen. It is a piece of truly English elegance. The whole is built of an excellent free-stone, cut and finished at Malta, ready for joining, before they are brought hither. I could not learn why they did not use the beautiful grey-marble which is found on Corfu. The expense of this palace, without the finishing of the second-floor, without roof, statues, and other ornaments, exclusive of fixtures and furniture, is said to have amounted, by this time, to 83,000*l.* sterling. Its architect is Colonel Whitmore.

On the west-side of the esplanade, to the right of the palace, a row of fine houses with arcades, fronting the esplanade, have been built during the English administration. Here is the British hotel, the best, and indeed the only good inn in Corfu, fitted up in the English style, and calculated for English purses. Here are, also, the houses of the Austrian and Turkish consuls. Under the arcades are billiard-rooms, coffee-houses, and reading-rooms.

In this place, also, stands the marble statue of the brave Count Schulenburg. It is of good workmanship, but of that quaint appearance which prevailed at the beginning of the last century. The pedestal bears the following inscription:

MATTHIÆ JOHANNI,
COMITI A SCULEMBURGIS,
Summo terrestrium
Copiarum præfecto
Christianæ Reipublicæ
In Coreyæ obsidione
Fortissimo assertori
Adhuc viventi, Senatus
Anno M,DCC,XVII.

The town of Corfu, the bulwark of Italy and of the east, is covered in all directions, towards the sea and land, by forts which, I was informed, were latterly supplied with every neces-

sary, and even contain numerous cavalry, and besides being guarded by a line-of-battle ship and several frigates, seem to be impregnable.

The prisons in the fortress, notorious from the times of the Venetians, I did not inspect. Nor should I have been allowed to see them, as they have been well-stocked during these last few months.

Corfu used to be called the border of the E. This may have been correct fifty years ago. The city is now completely Italian, and oriental customs are only to be seen, such as they are in Venice, as exotics. Italian manners prevail in the interior of the houses, in the public amusements, and in the language; in fact, they have been adopted by all, except the lower orders of the people. We need only look at the coffee-houses, which play so distinguished a part in Italy. Are they not till midnight the rallying-point of both sexes?

If you go into the interior of the families, you find as little relish for society and domestic pleasures as in Italy. All their affections are turned abroad, towards public assemblies, the theatre, promenades, and coffee-houses. A magic circle seems drawn round the house, which a stranger can but rarely pass. They will there submit, in private, to all possible privations, if, by such sacrifices, they can preserve splendour, or at least a decent appearance in public. If we go to the villages, which on Sundays form the rendezvous of the fashionable world, we again meet with Italy. We only miss its charming women, its Psyche and Niobe forms. We see the same rage for carriages as in Florence, Rome, and Naples, however wretched they may be, and whatever domestic sacrifices they may require. I saw, for instance, an ancient Corfiot Count, in a public ride, in an old machine, drawn by one mule, gaudily dressed up; whilst the driver, who had no seat, was obliged to run by the side of the wretched vehicle. We see the same gracious nod to pedestrian acquaintances, with inconsistency in female dress. Gaudy colours, awkwardness of appearance, without those delicate efforts to please, so conspicuous in the ladies of Venice, Milan, and Florence.

The English give a very unfavourable account of the inhabitants of the city; they endeavour, especially, to ridicule the nobility and their foolish pride. But this nobility once possessed great merit; they have displayed bravery and civic virtues, which are recorded in every page of their history; which, however, the British do not think worth knowing. They are certainly degenerated, like the nobility of all countries; Venice, in particular, has spoiled them. Nevertheless, they possess among them some very respectable men, and particularly well-informed

families. But have the British nobility kept themselves free from corruption?

The nobility and other respectable inhabitants compare the English with the Venetians, Russians, and French, who, by their pleasant manners, made themselves so agreeable to them, and have been an ornament to their assemblies. Do they find the same in the English? I believe not. If then the natives try to avoid their society; if they are particularly afraid of the friendship and connection with those numerous military and naval officers, who seem just to have issued forth from the forests of old Albion—ought we to blame them? Certainly not. Even unprejudiced Englishmen are of the same opinion. Those gentlemen would consider every place out of England as a Corfu.

But, in many respects, the city of Corfu has gained through the British. It has become much cleaner and better lighted. Houses, colonades, and palaces have been built; in the neighbourhood of the city gardens, parks, and country-seats have arisen. Many English shops have been opened, and for ready cash every luxury and comfort of life may be procured. The British only purchase what comes from old England. They even extend this patriotism to the votaries of Aphrodite Pandæmas, although I could not learn whether their custom-house officers class them among the articles of luxury. Once a whole cargo of these naiades were imported from the Thames. But they might have had a better article of the kind in Sicily or Venice, where the Englishmen purchase them and destroy the market for other nations.

A great partiality for the Russians is still entertained in the good families, which was fomented by the presence of a renowned statesman in the Russian service, who had lately been here for the purpose of visiting his native country.

Corfu not only gave birth to the minister Capo d'Istria, and still contains many of that name, but likewise to Signora Isabella Tastochi Albrici, a lady of learning, who wrote very ably on several works of Canova, such as bas-reliefs and statues.

Among the modern scholars and artists of Corfu, I ought also to mention Signor Mustoxidi, author of the modern history of the island; Professor Bondioli, in whom Corfu lost a distinguished physician and scholar; and Signor Brossolendi, a good sculptor.

I did not visit the theatre. It is only open during the autumn and the carnival season, and only Italian comic operas are performed in it. Rossini's airs I also heard there in every street.

LETTER XVIII.

Corfu, August.

OF the IONIKON ΚΡΑΤΟΣ, inscribed on the new coin of the republic, the Britannia, which is seated on the reverse, has left nothing, and the once furious lion of St. Marc tamely crouches under the feet of the fair virgin with Poseidon's trident.

Before I proceed in my remarks, I must premise, that I by no means mistake the distinction which ought to be made between that which the British government wishes to have done for the Ionian islands, over which she has received the protectorate and executive power, and that which the local government at Corfu actually does. I here only speak of the latter. The possession of the Ionian islands is always a financial loss to their possessor, since, even if absolutely subjected, they do not yield so much as they cost, if they are to be properly supported. Their possession can, therefore, be important only in a political, military, and mercantile point of view.

For this reason these islands must always be in the hands of some great power. Such a power might establish in them a government and administration, from which the neighbouring Turks might learn how to govern and treat the Greek states under their controul. This example ought to have been set by the British government; and, although its policy might not have found imitation in the first five years, it would have operated in time, for it has been seen in Smyrna, Thessalonica, Adrianople, Magnesia, and Constantinople, before the rising of the Greeks, how much the Porte, in places that were not oppressed by cruel pashas, considered the welfare of its Greek subjects, and what great privileges, especially in trade, it granted to them above its other subjects, particularly the Armenians.

If the Porte had viewed the Ionians under their new government, contented, tranquil, and growing in opulence, it would soon have adopted as much of the same system as might be consistent with its own. I have been assured, in Corfu, that the English government in 1815, at the time when the islands were made over to them by treaty, had this object in view. If it had been executed by the British agents, it is a question whether the Greeks, in 1821, would have had any just cause for rising against the Porte. But what have the Ionian islands presented since that period? A poor race of people, towards whom no promise was kept,—a people who, only living by trade, have been bound with the tightest fetters, and have not been allowed to engage in any enterprise which might affect the interest of British trade; at the same time teased by a host of English revenue-officers, who curtailed their rights of navigation and mo-

nopolised the use of their own harbours and bays in favour of England,—a people who, often despised and ill treated by the British officers, were forced to hate their government at Corfu, and to try all means of getting rid of it.

Such a result could certainly not inspire the Porte with any desire of imitation; and, mistrustful and timid as it is, it only became more strict and severe against its own Greek subjects, and the pashas became even more cruel.

According to the treaty by which they were delivered over, the Ionians were to found a republic under the auspices of Great Britain, whose protection was to be the security of independence. An Ionian senate was to assist the British governor by its counsels, and a legislative-assembly was to give them new laws.

If, instead of this acknowledged republican form, the Ionian islands had become England's property, if they had become an integral part of Great Britain, with the English constitution, English rights, and English legislature, how happy then would have been their lot, compared with their present state!

An English governor has arrived to rule in Corfu, with the same supreme power as did formerly the *providitore-generale* of St. Marc. In those times the Ionians could at least complain and petition in Venice, so near to them, and frequently the senate afforded them speedy protection and redress against the Venetian officers. But now the distance from London is much greater: it is so by nature, while the policy of government has made it quite inaccessible. Those unhappy Ionians, who some months ago addressed their grievances to England, now find redress in the gaols of Corfu!

Those who firmly expressed and defended principles unpleasant to the government of Corfu, were soon removed from the senate. This was the fate of four of the ablest and most upright men. Those who remained, together with their president, took warning from this. Very soon the senate had no other wish but those of the English governor, who, moreover, often expressed them rather harshly. Hence, for some time past, the will of the senate has not been distinguished from that of this ruler, and the greatest harmony prevails!

The legislative assembly have not yet accomplished their task of forming a code of laws for the Ionian islands, nor does it appear they ever will accomplish it.

In the mean time, the government of Corfu has seized upon all the branches of the executive administration, and placed them under its controul, by putting them into the hands of Englishmen, foreigners, or such of the islanders who yield implicitly to the will of the English government. Thus the duties

of customs in all the islands are managed in a manner which leads to the belief that these islands are under martial-law. Woe to the wretch who should undertake any thing against which there should even be no prohibition, if it oppose the interest of British commerce! It must be considered of what deep importance this is in so small a maritime state, which subsists only by trade and navigation.

With the cruelty of barbarians they fall upon the Ionian ships and boats, which are prohibited from seeking shelter against the inclemencies of the weather in any bay of the islands, if they do not purchase permission at a high price.

The courts of justice, which ought to be independent, are only unrestrained where the interest of government is not at stake. But, whenever this is concerned, they must, like all the other branches of the executive and administration, serve as the hand-maid of British interest, to which every thing must yield.

The Ionian senate being entirely dependant on the government, the latter has all places at its disposal. Most of these are given to foreigners, but never to Ionians, of whom it is known that they think for themselves, and have spirit and energy enough to have a will of their own.

The most remarkable proceeding of government is that respecting the coinage. All the good silver and copper-coin in the islands was bought up and sent to England. For this good coin the finely coined *oboli* have been returned, but are said to contain $\frac{3}{4}$ less in copper than their nominal value in silver, compared to the Turkish paras, the Neapolitan grane, and the Roman bajocco.* Silver-coin has not been given to them at all; it has only been promised. This is very troublesome and injurious to the Ionians in their transactions with the continent.

It was not till the present session of the British parliament that the defects and faults of the Ionian government were extensively and perspicuously laid open by Mr. Hume. A ministerial member, of the lower-house, attempted to refute him, but without success. Almost at the same time Signor Martilengo, and several respectable Zantiots, addressed themselves, in a respectful petition, to the King of England: they represented their manifold grievances against the local government, and prayed for redress. For this, Martilengo, and all those who had signed

* The following story is current in Corfu, for the truth of which, however, I cannot warrant. In the budget of 1819, mention was first made among the receipts of 60,000 Spanish piastres or talleri, which had been paid by the islands for money sent from England; then this sum appeared among the expenses, as money given by England to the islands; and, ultimately, these 60,000 piastres appeared in the shape of a debt of the Ionian islands for the money sent from England!

with him, were immediately arrested as traitors, and sent to jail in Corfu, where they still are; Martilengo only was afterwards released to avoid disturbances in Zante. I do not believe that the king and his ministers can know any thing of these proceedings.

Thus the poor Ionian republicans were denied what every British subject may do in their parliament, and their attempt was punished by the pro-consular government.

English residents are established in the islands of Santa Maura, Thiaki, Cephalonia, Zante, and Kerigo. They naturally act in the sense of the government on which they depend. There, in their capacity of chief civil and military magistrates, they are looked upon in the light of little sovereigns, and the royal Odysseus could hardly have had such authority on Thiaki as the British resident, although only a captain.

The Greeks accuse this resident of oppressions and arbitrary seizures. These reproaches I consider as the result of the people's discontent; since such vile conduct is not in the character of the English. They also greatly blame the conduct of the government with regard to the revolutionized Greeks. Certainly the government has tried to prevent, suppress, and punish, every real participation of the Ionian Greeks in the affairs of the neighbouring continent; and the numerous ordonnances that have been issued on this subject are before the public.

But this conduct of the government cannot justly be blamed, if we rightly consider the political position which England has assumed towards the Porte and the Greeks. It proclaimed, in conjunction with the other high powers, the strictest neutrality in their war; and, to preserve this, it was compelled to prohibit the Ionians from assisting the Greeks, and punish every transgression on this point. In fact, in several cases the government only did so, after a requisition of the Turkish government; in which the cases of intermeddling on the part of Ionian subjects were officially pointed out.—Thus far, I think, every thing has been correct. But government, incensed at the conduct of the Ionians, has begun to hate the Greeks, and their cause. This is blameable, however natural its origin.

The English government knows, from various discoveries, how close is the connection of the Zantiots, Santa Mauriots, and Corfiots, with the Greeks of the Morea, Rumeli, and Epirus, and even with the brave Hetarists in Moldavia. It has intercepted many letters, containing plans for the co-operation of the Ionians, for their liberation from the English, for the surprize of the fortresses, and even the murder of the garrisons. It knows that, from the moment the Greeks on the continent gain any decisive and permanent advantages, it will be exposed to the enterprizes

and attacks of the Ionians. Nay, if even the government were not acquainted with those combinations and plans through those intercepted letters, it would have learnt it from the imprudent, passionate expressions of the Zantiots and Corfiots themselves, who are unable to conceal their rage and hatred against the government, and frequently speak so violently against the English, that it can only proceed from motives of prudence that the government does not imprison them.

Is it then surprising that the English, in return, should hate the Greek cause, and obstruct its progress? This cause, which they erroneously consider as the foundation of the disaffection and hatred of the Ionians against them. They forget that the Ionians would incline much less towards the Greeks, if they felt themselves happier as republicans under British government; nay, if they were even less oppressed. This feeling is the source from which originate the measures of the government of Corfu, and which can certainly find no rational or just excuse. Thus the government carefully suppressed all intelligence from the Morea, Rumeli, Epirus; so that it is almost impossible, in those approximate islands, to have any correct information respecting the events, positions, marches, or strength of the armies or of the fortresses occupied by the contending parties.

To the injury of the cause and the Ionians, it allows the youth of continental Greece, capable of bearing arms, to reside in the islands; and, what is more than all, it affords assistance to the Turks, by supplying them with provisions, arms, ammunition, &c. by which it infringes upon its neutrality, and places itself in a hostile position towards the Greeks.

It was, probably, in consequence of the above-mentioned discoveries, that the government has taken measures for fortifying and securing all strong points. Thence also the increase of troops, the removal of the cavalry into the forts, the great supplies bought for the latter, &c. The Ionians are wrong in complaining of these measures. They cost them nothing; but have rather been useful to many of them.

The English in Corfu told me that these measures, on the least commotion, would be followed by the general disarming* of the islanders; which they considered the more necessary, as these people are all excellent marksmen, and so expert in climbing and jumping on their mountains and rocks, that they would be almost a match for English riflemen.

But we should, at the same time, duly consider and appreciate the advantages which the English government afford to the Ionian islands.

* This has since taken place.

At the head of these I shall mention the excellent police of the islands and the adjoining seas,—a police which suffers none of the former excesses. The pleasure which many Ionians take in robbery, plunder, and murder,—a pleasure which they share with their Greek brethren on the continent,—they are deprived of by the British government; and, whenever it occurs, a rapid form of judicature quickly puts an end to the criminal. The harbours and bays of the islands are no longer the refuge of pirates.

Since 1815 large sums have been spent by the British government upon the Ionian islands, in draining marshes, in the erection of new bridges, roads, houses, palaces, &c. such as the great bridge of Argostoli, the butchers' hall, the palace of the government at Corfu. These fabrics have cost the islands nothing, and tend to their advantage or improvement, besides bringing money into the country. The taxes in the islands must be trifling, since the English government takes nothing from them; and the whole revenue is said to be employed in defraying the expences of the internal administration. The English government pays its own troops, and keeps them in barracks, which, for the most part, it has built. In the same manner, all the expenses of keeping old fortifications in order, or building new ones, are defrayed by the government. The Ionians are not subject to any military service, conscription, or recruiting.

The English officers, civil as well as military, together with the well-paid troops, amounting to between 3,000 and 6,000 men, put considerable sums into circulation. Many tradesmen in the towns, who were formerly poor, have in consequence acquired some property; but the merchants, sailors, &c. who form the greater part of the population, groan under the British commercial restraints.

Corfu has gained much through the English in pleasantness and comfort; and the towns of the other islands have also had their share of those improvements.

Eight engineers are now engaged on the survey of Corfu. Their labours, of which I have seen some, for their elegance and correctness do honour to British genius. This survey is likewise conducted at the expense of the English government; and it is afterwards to be extended to the other islands. It is to be wished that on this occasion the government would lay aside its proud indifference towards antiquity, and undertake and encourage diggings on interesting spots. It might, at least, put a stop to the vandalism of its officers.

I now return my sincere thanks to the English residents and other officers in the Ionian islands, for their politeness and kindness to me personally. I must acknowledge that I have not

suffered from them any of those municipal vexations which are so annoying to every stranger, but, especially, to the scientific traveller. It depended only on myself to profit by the kind assistance which the English authorities so often offered to me. I must also observe, that the being a Saxon was every where a recommendation among these authorities; and I was often gratified by seeing their stern features relax, when they saw my country named in my passport.

LETTER XIX.

Venice, September.

About the end of August the Austrian packet, *Il Fenice*, an armed brig, arrived at Corfu. As there was immediately a considerable number of passengers for Venice, she only remained a few days in the harbour, after which she sailed with a favourable wind.

This vessel is well fitted up, and affords, at various prices, the best accommodation, with cheap board. We had some agreeable Englishmen with us, one of whom distinguished himself by his great loquacity, a quality otherwise very rare among his countrymen. We had, also, on-board several young Greeks from Janina, Smyrna, and Hydria, who were going to Paris for their studies. They saw nothing singular in this at a moment like the present, and did not think they were called upon to bear arms in the defence of their country. Nay, they considered it an act of prudence to go abroad in order to avoid trouble.

This voyage along the islands and the eastern continent, which was now and then interrupted by calms, produced nothing worth recording. Safely arrived at Venice, we were shut up in the old lazaretto to keep quarantine, which, by special favour, only lasted eighteen days.
